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THURSDAY, AUGUST 1ST, 2013

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Ladies' brush with fame and royalty!



Pictured left with Rob Brydon are (left to right) Mrs Beryl Holmes, Mrs Nita Dally MBE, Mrs Mary Thomas and Mrs Joy Ephraim, all of whom recently attended Buckingham Palace to celebrate the 70th birthday of Tenovus. (SEE THE FULL STORY ON PAGE 8).

LOCAL HOSPITAL IS AT THE HEART OF WELSH PROGRESS ON CYSTIC FIBROSIS

New CF centre opens at Llandough as unit looks to 'Better Life'

A YOUNG woman from Barry took centre stage at Llandough Hospital on Friday, July 26, when she officially opened the new All Wales Adult Cystic Fibrosis Centre with Welsh Minister for Health Mark Drakeford, writes TIM CHAPMAN.

Beth Davey (19) is

one of the centre's patients and was accompanied by her parents and sister, who were delighted to share in her big day and see at first hand the new centre and its facilities.

Beth told The GEM: "I am delighted with the new centre, and I know other patients are, too."

"It looks amazing, and already feels like home, especially when you spend so much of your life in and out of hospital!"

It is estimated that almost 10,000 people live with cystic fibrosis (CF) in the United Kingdom. In people with CF, the lungs make thicker mucus than normal, which can trap bacteria in the small airways and lead to infection.

The symptoms that develop include persistent cough, wheezing, shortness of breath and breathing difficulties and repeated chest infections.

The new centre's director, Dr Ian Ketchell, said he was thrilled at the interest shown by people in the progress of the unit.

"I was delighted by the number of guests who turned up to support the opening, and explained that work would now begin on phase two of the centre, which requires £1.1 million to be raised to com-

plete the move of the in-patient ward.

"Currently, there are only seven in-patient beds and there is an urgent need for 15 to 17 beds in the new centre."

Dr Ian Ketchell explained to the guests how invaluable the new centre already was to the team and its patients.

With more than 240 adult patients in Wales attending the new facility, it will provide a centre of excellence to current and future patients.

He explained: "Due to the significant advances in treatment and the development of specialised centres of care, life expectancy is increasing and as a national centre, it is essential that we are able to meet the growing demand for our services."

"Prior to the new centre, the team, including doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, dietitians and psychologists, was spread out across the hospital."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)

ASSAULT: MAN SOUGHT

POLICE in the Vale investigating an assault which occurred at around 11pm on Saturday, June 29, have issued a photograph of a man they would like to interview.

The incident occurred outside the Barry Dock Constitutional Club on Dock View Road, Barry when the 23-year-old victim was assaulted.

Officers say they want to speak to Paul Andrew Kennedy (33) from Laleston Close in Barry. He is described as being 5ft 10ins tall and of proportionate build, with wavy brown hair and brown eyes.

Contact Barry police station on 101 or Crimestoppers free on 0800 555111 (quote reference *30197165).

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'Watch out for the Government's next U-turn, on Europe'

WITH reference to the letter by

DJ Radford in The GEM on July 18 – 'EU: Let's get out now – we pay over £45 million per day to this bloated institution.'

All we get in return is an impotent Parliament in Westminster. Our laws are made in Brussels and Strasbourg and we have lost control over our own country.

However, the writer's statement – let's get out now, not in 2017, suggests he believes the spin from this un-elected

Prime Minister, that we will get a referendum in 2017.

This Government has performed hundreds of 'u-turns', the latest being on tobacco and alcohol.

Don't underestimate the Lynton Crosby effect – say one thing to placate your own party, country, while at the same time (behind their backs) plot to do the opposite.

Cameron does not want to leave Europe and will do all he can to stay in the club.

Of course, he has to win an election first.

C Dodd,

Barry

'Nightmare of the EU bureaucracy'

WITH reference to the letter from Mr D Kennett in The GEM last week, before retirement, I worked with the Welsh Assembly, advising and guiding business through the bureaucratic nightmare of European funding and the horrendous expense of work and social regulations.

I worked with 'Eurocrats' at national, local and Brussels levels. It soon became evident that the development of the EU is Eurocrat-driven, from unelected Commissioner down, with no direct electoral accountability – but that is another debate.

Every business I had dealings with, found the social costs of employing staff: pensions, NI, maternity leave, redundancy, are at such a level they are very hesitant to take on more staff.

There are small businesses that are losing money. They cannot afford to make their staff redundant unless they sell their homes. In every case, the regula-

tion

is

the

cost

of

work

and

social

regulations.

John Owen,

Cowbridge

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Readers' Letters

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Immigration's a good thing 'BETTER LEARN TO LIVE TOGETHER'

As a university lecturer, I have been privileged to meet many immigrants to this country, as fellow academics and as students and friends.

These people have come to this country either temporarily or permanently. My experience leads me to welcome immigration (and emigration) as a positive force for good.

For example, I have current students who came here initially as refugees from conflict. Without exception, they are hardworking students, even though they are usually studying in a 'foreign' language.

In almost every case, they are working at the same time as studying, as well as doing voluntary work and sometimes raising a family. The UK benefits immensely from their efforts, both economically and culturally.

Fellow academics include people who have come here to study and stayed, and those who studied here and returned home. I have learned so much from them, which can be passed on to students, and be used to enhance the work that I do in many ways.

I have also been fortunate to work overseas, and I hope to have contributed to other countries at least a little. I have certainly gained from those experiences.

We are so lucky to live in a peaceful and (even now) prosperous country. I am not pretending that

DOG FOULING: No action on taken

I REFER to a recent letter printed in your newspaper regarding dog fouling in the Vale of Glamorgan, written by Clifford Parish, operational manager waste management and cleansing, for Vale Council.

He was responding to a reader who was complaining about the health risk that is caused by dog owners not picking up after their pets.

In his letter, he asked any resident who has witnessed the crime of not clearing up after a dog, to contact him as (rightly so) enforcement officers can't be everywhere.

Please can Mr Parish take some action? I am sure there must be some legislation, otherwise what is the point of this department?

By the way, I am a dog owner myself, who always clears up after my pet.

(Name and address supplied).

I have complained to

'Keep brain in gear'

IT is with great frustration that I find myself writing this; as a frequent country lane driver, I find it incredible, that on an almost weekly basis, people who use the lanes as a short cut or (more commonly) a 'rat race', have no common-sense or courtesy when it comes to waiting in the passing spaces for oncoming traffic.

I propose the erection of traffic signs on entering a lane to read: "No entry, unless plenty of common sense, courtesy, and an ability to reverse your vehicle when required!" (Name and address supplied).

The lane outside my

'Safety barrier was removed'

As a resident in Dock View Road, Barry, I was shocked by the report in last week's issue of The GEM about Alun Cairns' concern over a hole in the road.

Residents should be aware that this photograph was posed by removing an existing safety barrier at that spot.

We all know that politicians love photo-opportunities, but this must be a new low in cynicism.

As Mr Cairns is so concerned about public expenditure, he could also desist from sending letters to the residents of House of Commons stationery, at the taxpayers' expense.

Brian Morris

Barry

This is our Island in the sun...!

MAY I, through the pages of your newspaper, say how wonderful it was to see so many Barry residents and visitors alike enjoying themselves on Barry Island, with the amazing fire displays of the 'Isle of Fire' summer weekender.

No family in Barry or the Vale should be stuck for ideas on where to go for days out this summer.

mer because the Vale Council have organised a range of free exciting family events at Barry Island every weekend during the school holidays.

All events take place along the promenade or Island Gardens.

So all we need now is a little luck with the weather and lots of enthusiastic people to help create our very own summer of family fun!

Coun Rob Curtis
Barry

Children's centre needs donations

As many GEM readers know, the Western Vale Integrated Children's Centre at Llantwit Major is managed by the Diocese of Llandaff Board for Social Responsibility, a not-for-profit organisation with charitable status.

We provide services and facilities for the community as a whole, and we have a nearly-new children's clothing stall.

Donations can be handed in to the reception office.

Paula Malorey-Vibert,

WVICC Centre Manager

</

'Anti-social' behaviour in Rhoose Point area debated

TOMBSTONING, littering, nuisance parking and alcohol are among the issues which have concerned Rhoose Point residents this summer.

Vale Council managers Miles Punter and Phil Beaman, the police and local councillors, met to consider instances of antisocial behaviour at the lagoons and other open spaces in the area.

A report will be tabled at a Vale cabinet meeting in September, seeking permission to begin public consultation on the possible introduction of byelaws in the area.

The aim of the measures would be to control or prohibit a range of activities including camping, fishing, swimming, lighting fires and the consumption of alcohol.

A parking survey will also be undertaken to determine whether restrictions should be introduced in the areas of the lagoons to protect parking for nearby residents, and to encourage visitors to the area to use the car park at Rhoose

by GEM reporters

Railway Station. Council officers will also consider installing signs promoting the use of the car park to all visitors to the area.

Coun Jeffrey James said the views of local residents had to be taken into consideration.

"I am keen to support the use of the excellent open spaces at Rhoose Point by visitors, though this use must not be to the detriment of the local residents.

"I believe that progressing consultation arrangements on a range of byelaws will be the most appropriate way of establishing which activities should be controlled or prevented in future."

Coun Phil Clarke added: "The open space land at Rhoose Point is a wonderful amenity, but we must do what we can with the assistance of the police to ensure that the actions of a few irresponsible individuals do not spoil the use of the area for the majority, including those who live at Rhoose Point."

Rhoose neighbourhood beat

manager, Police Constable Nicola Owen, encouraged all residents or visitors to the area who witness antisocial behaviour to contact the Police via the 101 service.

"I will be meeting residents to listen to their concerns and I am also keen to take action against those found to be committing antisocial behaviour, including visitors who insist on parking on the footways in the area of the lagoons and those found to be causing an obstruction."

In a warning to people who go swimming at Rhoose Point lagoon, PC Owen added: "Recent events in south Wales and elsewhere in the UK have brought home the need to take extreme care when swimming, particularly in reservoirs, lagoons and open water."

"The water can be very cold and extremely deep with hazards which cannot be seen from the surface. The shock of the cold causes panic for even the most experienced swimmer and can easily lead to extreme difficulties or, tragically, drowning."

CHURCH CREAM TEA RAISES £350 FOR FUND



Penarth Town Mayor Coun Neil Thomas, and his wife, enjoy a cream tea with Rev Peter Cox at All Saints Church.

Store staff's cheques for three charities



THE Community Matters scheme in Waitrose Barry recently supported three local causes. Barry branch of the RNLI, Barry arm of Age Concern and Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern.

All three had been nominated by Alun Cairns MP, who had run for RNLI and Age Concern during the London Marathon. Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern was the third charity selected in recognition of their work in the community.

On July 12, representatives from the three causes were presented by Tom Blyth, Ann-Marie Sherry and Vicki Barry, representatives of Waitrose Barry.

RNLI received £510 towards the cost of their pontoon, that will enable them to launch lifeboats quicker. Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern received £180 towards the cost of running their minibus, which provides a vital service for people in Dinas Powys area.

The Barry arm of Age Concern received £310 towards its 'Good Neighbour Scheme' and Senior Health Shop.

The presentation was also attended by Tom Blyth, Ann-Marie Sherry and Vicki Barry, representatives of Waitrose Barry.

ON a hot and sunny Saturday afternoon, during the Penarth Summer Festival, All Saints Church in Victoria Square served a traditional cream tea to more than 100 visitors of all ages, including Penarth Town Mayor, Coun Neil Thomas, and his wife Sheena.

There was a variety of stalls and a raffle, together with musical accompaniment in the beautiful surroundings of the recently-renovated church building.

More than £350 was raised towards the continuing costs of the re-ordering project.

Thank you to all who attended for their support.

MG

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'Consult widely on the future of town centre' says councillor

A BARRY councillor has welcomed a licence extension to Barry market, but warned that it must be involved in discussions on the town centre's future.

The current licence expires at the end of September 2013 but the Vale Council is proposing an 18-month extension until March 2015. Plaid Cymru councillor Ian Johnson, who represents Buttrills ward, said: "I support the extension of the Barry Market contract,

which brings more people to the Barry town centre area on Tuesdays.

"It has become a regular part of Holton Road and Barry Dock since it was launched back in 1994, nearly 20 years ago.

"The Vale Council has recently published a consultants' report for a new Town Centre Action Plan.

"Between now and the extension ending in 2015, hopefully many of those proposals to continue the regeneration of the town centre will be implemented."

But Coun Johnson insisted that the owners of permanently located businesses, as well as market traders, need to be consulted about future plans.

"If the market is to be retained and developed for local shoppers in the longer-term, then the council must ensure that discussions take place with the market owners and permanent businesses so that the proposals benefit everybody in the town centre area and Holton Road continues to attract shoppers."

'Barry site meets criteria for closure'

LOCAL MP Alun Cairns has met directors of Premier Foods, who plan to close their milling operation at the Rank Hovis building on Barry Docks.

Mr Cairns, who opposes the closure, wanted to know the reasons for entering formal consultation with the 43 employees about closing the plant.

The first phase of consultation concluded

that there was no alternative other than closure.

Mr Cairns said: "This is a major employer in Barry and we need to do all possible to see if we can change their mind. I wanted to know if further investment in the operation would make a difference.

Premier Foods claim that there is an overcapacity in the market, and that the Barry site meets their criteria for closure."

St Lawrence's day

THE little church of St Lawrence at Fort Road, Lavernock, will be celebrating St Lawrence's day on Sunday, August 11, at 3pm.

The organist will be Anne Thomas and the service will be led by Rev Margaret Stark. Parking is available off Fort Road near the church.

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Korda film of early days of flight

AN old black and white film about the evolution of aviation – *Conquest of the Air* – made by the legendary director, Alexander

Korda in 1936, will be shown at tomorrow's meeting of Penarth Aviation Society (Friday, August 2).

When the film was

made, flying with aeroplanes was still in its early stages. Korda started 'Conquest' with some of man's laughable and usually dangerous attempts to get airborne in

medieval times.

The film moves on with the development of aviation, showing archival and documentary film of early aeroplanes and fliers, some from World War One, and the then latest thing in dirigibles, bombers, fighters, naval aircraft carriers and navigation.

As the last war loomed, the British Air Ministry saw the film's value for showing off Britain's leadership and contribution to aviation.

It was updated in the United States in 1940, with a few 'reenactments'.

One enactment

shows a young Lawrence Olivier as the 18th century pioneering balloonist Lunardi, 'the Daredevil Aeronaut', who flew 24 miles in an ostentatiously-decorated hydrogen balloon, with a dog, a cat and a pigeon – declaring it 'a tribute to all things British'.

Penarth Aviation Society meets in the Penarth Conservative Club at 7.45pm for 8pm on the first Friday of each month.

Visitors are welcome. Further information from DAVID EPHRAIM, on 01446 721321.



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Albion quiz night raises £1,000 for Penarth hospice



Pictured: Mary Sneddon, Karen Jones, Liz Highgate and Richard Bond.

Karen Jones said: "It is always a pleasure to attend cheque presentations in Penarth where so many local clubs, pubs and groups show their appreciation of the nursing services offered at the hospice, by raising funds to help us care for patients."

"The Albion has been a great support and I would like to say a big thank you to everyone involved in this."

"To find out more about the work of the Marie Curie hospice in Penarth, contact the fundraising team on 02920 426068."

RNLI says 'thank you'

THE Barry fundraising branch of the RNLI would like to thank the people of Barry for their generosity during the recent annual house-to-house collection, when a total of £2,716.30 was raised.

I would also like to thank the fundraising team who gave considerable time in volunteering for this event.

On July 7, the Barry Model Boat Club put on spectacular show of model boats at Cold Knap Lake. Many models were of the different classes of Lifeboats.

A collection for the Barry RNLI raised £274.95 and £189.40 worth of RNLI items were also sold. Most sincere thanks to the club for staging this event.

The RNLI is an independent charity that helps to save lives at sea, providing 24-hour search and rescue from lifeboat stations around the UK and Republic of Ireland.

The RNLI also works to promote sea and beach safety. None of this would be possible without fundraising, donations and legacies. It costs £385,000 a day to run the service, all generously donated by the public.

The Barry Lifeboat Station has an all-weather lifeboat and RNLI Lifeguards are now present on local beaches.

We are always looking for volunteers to help with our fundraising. Do you have some time to spare? Maybe join our branch, or organise a fundraiser on our behalf? If so, then please call 01446 732195.

CHRIS TUTTO,
(chairperson, Barry fundraising branch, RNLI)

A CHEQUE for £1,000 was handed over to Karen Jones, fundraising manager for the Marie Curie hospice, Penarth, at the Albion Quiz night, raised by weekly quiz customers who, over 24 years, have donated £87,030 to charities.

Manager Mary Sneddon explained: "The customers like to support local charities as part of the quiz night."

"Marie Curie in Penarth is one that so many people know and respect and they have cared for many of our own customers over the years."

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PARKS SUFFER BECAUSE OF SELFISH PEOPLE

An appeal to the 'inconsiderate few' – learn to clear up!

A BARRY resident who walks his dog in Porthkerry Park a number of times each week, says he is frustrated by the lack of respect some people show local parkland areas.

Chris Collins told The GEM: "Large numbers of dog owners, like myself, take their dogs for a walk in Porthkerry Park in the fields between Cwm Barry Valley and the Millwood.

"The majority of dog owners in this area are responsible and clean up after their dogs.

"A few owners allow their dogs to foul the footpaths without any consideration. "On behalf of the majority of responsible dog owners, I would like to appeal to this inconsiderate few.

"If you can't be bothered to 'bag and bin', at least 'stick and flick', so others can avoid your dogs' mess."

But Chris pointed out that aberrant dog owners weren't the only people despoiling the environment.

"At this time of year, the Porthkerry Park fields between Cwm Barry Valley and the Millwood are visited overnight by 'free campers'.

"I'm not sure if this activity is prohibited in the park, but the frequency suggests maybe not.

"Come to that, I'm not sure the motivation for pitching a tent overnight has anything to do with the great outdoors!

"Whatever their motivation, the 'campers' rarely take their empty bottles, beer cans, plastic takeaway cartons and human detritus away when they leave.

"In the bigger scheme of things, dog mess is biodegradable – this kind of activity is more environmentally hazardous and offensive, and both are unacceptable."

Classic cheque from the Rotary



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Pictured ABOVE are: Rotarian Dave Wiltshire; club president Tony Stevens; Spiro Tanti; Shirley Tanti; Shena Sarjeant, Rotarian Ged Crosby, Sabrina Tanti and Claire.

DINAS POWYS Rotary Club has handed over £2,500 to the Motor Neurone Disease Association, at its recent meeting in Dinas Powys Golf Club.

The presentation was made by immediate past president Ged Crosby and Spiro Tanti, whose mother was a victim of this terrible disease, to Shena Sarjeant, Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan branch Chair.

Spiro is a classic car enthusiast and engineer and was accompanied by his wife Shirley, daughter Sabrina, and friend Claire.

The money comprised the proceeds of the Vale of Glamorgan Classic car show at Sully Sports and Social Club on May 27.

President Tony Stevens said: "We had a fantastic Classic car show and are delighted to offer our support to such a worthy charity.

PARKING ON DOUBLE LINES

I WAS intrigued to see that the UK Government is only now proposing that parking for 15 minutes on double yellow lines may in future be allowed.

Here go-ahead Dinas Powys, parking on double yellow lines has apparently been allowed for years without any time limit, providing at least two of the vehicle's wheels are standing on the pavement...

John Smythe, Dinas Powys

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Two cars burnt in Barry arson attack

RIGHT: The two burnt-out vehicles.

POLICE in Barry are investigating an arson attack, which resulted in two cars being burnt out.

The incident happened between 8.30pm and 11.10pm on Tuesday, July 23 in the car park of Barry Town Football Club.

A black Mercedes and a silver coloured BMW were deliberately set on fire and suffered extensive damage.

At around 11.15pm two people were seen to make off from the scene in the direction of the football stadium.

Police are appealing for any witnesses, or anyone who has any information in relation to the incident, to contact them.

• If you have any information please contact Barry CID on 101, or free and anonymously via Crimestoppers, on 0800 555111. (Quote reference 62130228390).



The Gruffalo is coming to Penarth!

C H I L D R E N ' S book character, The Gruffalo, is coming to Penarth – and he's bringing Poppy Cat with him – as part of Penarth Book Festival, on Saturday October 19.

The second voluntary-run, not-for-profit literary festival has a variety of events across the town from October 16 – 21. Organiser, Fay Blakeley said: "Following the huge success of Peppa Pig last year, we're delighted to announce that former children's laureate, Julia Donaldson's much-loved creation, The Gruffalo, will be making a special visit to the Penarth Book Festival.

"The Gruffalo will be joined by another favourite, Lara Jones's Poppy Cat. It will be a fun hour of music and storytelling, with the opportunity to meet the characters – so bring your camera with you."

Tickets are on sale priced £4 each, through the event website www.penarthbookfestival.org.uk, or in person at the Windsor Bookshop.

There will be two sessions, one at 10am and one at 12pm – both at Main Hall, All Saints Church, Victoria Square, Penarth.



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7. Pepperoni Passion Double pepperoni, double cheese

8. Kebab Special Chicken and doner kebab, onion & peppers (extra cheese)

9. Meat Feast Pepperoni, spicy beef, spicy chicken, meatballs & ham (extra cheese)

10. Chicken Combo Chicken tikka, roast chicken, Chinese chicken & tandoori chicken

11. Hot Shot Pepperoni, salami, jalapeno, onion, peppers & garlic butter

12. American Hot Pepperoni, onion, spicy beef & fresh chilli (extra cheese)

13. Tikka Tikka Onion, chicken, tikka, peppers, American spicy sausage & mushroom

14. Romeo's Tandoori Mushroom, onion, tandoori chicken & peppers

15. Seafood Tuna, prawns, anchovies, olives & onion (extra cheese)

16. London Pizza BBQ sauce, pepperoni, spicy beef, onion & American spicy sausage

17. Paris Pizza BBQ sauce, roast chicken, smoky bacon, onion & peppers

18. Doner Pizza BBQ sauce & doner slices (extra cheese)

19. Romeo Meatball Spicy sausage, onion, meatball, pepperoni & green peppers

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CARDIFF CROWN COURT ROUND-UP
with AJ SICLUNA

Nantymoel paedophile (81) is sent to jail

A PENSIONER paedophile has been jailed for three years at Cardiff Crown Court.

Clifford Jones (81) of Court Colman Street, Nantymoel, was said by Judge Tom Crowther QC to be "sexually fixated on children" despite his age.

He told Jones: "The effect on your victim and his family must have been considerable".

The court heard that Jones had convictions for 22 offences, including sexual offences. In 1994, he received nine

months for committing an act of gross indecency with a child and indecent assault, and four years later, he was given a suspended sentence for inciting a child to commit an act of gross indecency.

In the present case, said prosecutor Michael Jones, the defendant admitted sexually assaulting a boy in the Nantymoel area.

Jones was arrested the same day and said: "I don't know what you are talking about."

Added the prosecutor: "He disgracefully tried to portray that boy as speaking in a sexual manner and actually blamed him."

Owen Williams for Jones said: "In the past, he suffered a tragedy. He deserves some credit for his guilty plea and he suffers significant ill health."

A sexual offences prevention order was made banning the defendant from contact of any kind with children under 16 for life and he was banned from working with children.

The boy got into his car where the offence occurred.

When the child went home, he appeared tired and upset and said: "Something has happened."

He said Jones had touched his leg and

Prevention order confusion as man discharged

A man who breached a sexual offences prevention order, has been given an absolute discharge at Cardiff Crown Court.

Nigel Morgan, 41, of Long Acre, Bridgend, had been convicted of the offence at Bridgend Magistrates and had been committed to the Crown Court for sentence.

The order was imposed in May 2009 when Morgan received 51 months for sexual offences against a girl.

Judge Daniel Williams ruled that the original order was defective. It specified Morgan was to have no contact with children under 18 but it should have been under-16.

AM welcomes new post office



ABOVE: Jane Hutt AM with Mrs Patel at Park Crescent Stores, Barry.

AN early customer when a new Post Office service opened at the Park Crescent Stores in Barry, was Vale AM, Jane Hutt, who congratulated shop owners, Mr and Mrs Patel on their initiative and welcomed this "vital service for the local community."



ABOVE: Aviation history is made as the Airbus A380 visits Cardiff Airport for the first time.

PHOTOGRAPHS by MIKE WILCOCK

Spectacle of Airbus A380 delights the aviation enthusiasts



The crowds gather at one of the fences to get a glimpse of the A380.

THE spectacular sight of a British Airways A380 passenger plane at Cardiff Airport on Monday, July 29, drew thousands of people.

The aircraft flew into Cardiff as part of its preparations for long-haul operations.

The visit was the first time an A380 had ever flown into Cardiff, and gave

British Airways' engineering staff based at BAMC the chance to see it. One day they may be responsible for its maintenance.

Aviation enthusiasts gathered at every possible vantage point around the airport's perimeter to get a glimpse of the world's largest passenger aircraft whose wings are manufactured in Wales - at Broughton in Flintshire.

'Pawfect' ending for Michelle's pet dream..!



Alun Cairns MP with Michelle Inch outside 'Pawfection'.

A PET boutique, 'Pawfection', will be opened in Barry on August 10, by Michelle Inch, a young ambassador for business at The Prince's Trust.

She had been put in touch with the Trust by local MP and Small Business Ambassador for the PM, Alun Cairns.

He was given a sneak preview before the store's grand opening, and commented:

"When Michelle first approached me a couple of years ago, I could clearly see that she had the drive and determination to start her own business and I am so glad that

her dream has come true. "Michelle was originally running her business from her mum's house on Romilly Park Road, and was desperately trying to find funding to move to her own premises.

"Unfortunately, she had been turned down by the Welsh Assembly, and all the other avenues she had explored had come back negative.

"We put her in contact with the Prince's Trust, and they were excellent from the start. They clearly recognised strong potential in Michelle and this has been recognised by them in making Michelle a young ambassador."

Summer fun at children's centre

CHILDREN are clearly enjoying activities at the Summer Playscheme in Gibbonsdown Children's Centre, which runs until Friday August 30.

They take part in art and craft, cookery, team games and workshops, and Community Development officer Julia John said: "We have a full programme planned for the summer,

including a visit to Atlantic College at St Donats.

"The children are already producing beautiful artwork and looking forward to the Zumba workshop. With the recent warm weather, we have also been taking the children to local parks for team games such as rounders and football."

Contact the centre on (01446) 732692 for further information.

Safety first tips for aspiring young drivers

PUPILS aged between 14 and 16 from schools across the Vale, were given a driving safety class - as part of the council's Drive Safe initiative at RAF St Athan.

Working with the county road safety team, the police service, the fire service, trading standards and UPS staff, the teenagers were taught the basics of the law relating to motoring, what to look out for when buying a car, the dangers of drink driving and tips on safe driving.

Cabinet member for children's services Coun Chris Elmore said: "The council is pleased to work in partnership on this important topic to avoid road traffic accidents among this vulnerable group.

"Passing your driving test is an exciting event in a young person's life because it gives you more freedom and independence, but young drivers must always remember the dangers involved in getting behind the wheel."

Police search for au pair

SOUTH WALES POLICE are appealing for information which will lead them to Emeline Marie Essertel (23), pictured, right, a Frenchwoman wanted for a breach of bail.

Essertel was working as an au pair in Llantwit Major, but police believe she may have gone to the London area.

She is described as five feet six inches tall, of average build, with short straight brown hair and brown eyes.

Anyone who recognises her, or who knows where she may be, should contact PC Nicola Owen, at Llantwit Major police station on 01656 869447, or Crimestoppers free on 0800 555 111, quoting reference 6213002893.

Enough talking... NOW LET'S GET WALKING!

TIM PEARCE, a Barry resident, will let his feet do the talking for the Welsh language this summer!

He intends to walk Offa's Dyke path, the national trail which follows (more or less) the border between Wales and England from Chepstow in the south to Prestatyn in the north, a 177-mile long walk.

He wants to raise money towards Ty Cadog, the campaign to establish a Welsh language community centre in the Vale of Glamorgan.

The Ty Cadog project aims to establish a permanent centre, along with café, shop, bar and information about the Welsh language and culture.

Tim explained: "We want to create a neutral location where both speakers and learners of Welsh will feel at home and receive a service tailored to their needs.

"Our surveys have shown us that there is a real demand for such a facility in the Vale. It's not going to be easy to raise the money required to acquire premises, but we'll get there in the end!"

"I will be walking from August 3 until August 12 (passing very close to the location of the National Eisteddfod this year."

"If you would like to sponsor Tim, please go to the webpage: www.tycadog.org/offa/



ABOVE: Tim Pearce.

Green flags for parks

BELLE Vue Park and Victoria Park in Barry, have both won Green Flag awards, which recognise the best parks and green spaces in the country.

Keep Wales Tidy has awarded the prestigious flag to a record 61 parks and 56 community-managed green spaces in Wales.

Coun Gwyn John, cabinet member for leisure, parks, culture and sport development, said:

"The Vale Council is extremely proud to earn the right to fly the Green Flag at two of its parks and to receive recognition of the high standards maintained throughout the year."

Why partnership with EU is vital for growth in Wales

THE European Union has a major impact on the lives of people in Wales and plays an important part in improving our prospects for sustainable growth.

Our interests in business and trade, agriculture and rural development, regional development, energy, skills, employment, transport and the environment are all influenced and supported by EU policy – and it is vital that we have a strong voice to represent our interests.

In a recent statement to the Assembly I said: "The European Union is essential for the success of the UK. A fully engaged UK is crucial to the success of the EU and, with it, the future success of Wales."

This is made clear when we remember that 150,000 jobs in Wales depend on our access to the Single Market and the clear benefits it provides in facilitating trade and investment.

More than 450 firms from other Member States are based in Wales, providing over 50,000 jobs.

Since 2007, Wales has benefited from just over £1.8bn in funding from Europe, driving total investment programmes of some £4bn, providing support for businesses, people and communities through very difficult economic times.

Our flagship European-funded PROACT and REACT programmes supported many firms and employees in the Vale through the worst of the recession.

As Wales' Finance Minister, I am determined to ensure that Wales takes full advantage of the UK's membership of the European Union.

That's why every job opportunity created for 16-25 year olds in our Jobs Growth Wales programme is backed with European funding in every county of Wales, including the Vale, as well as our £20m boost to apprenticeships – also backed by EU funds.

The Rural Development Plan co-ordinated by Creative Rural Communities in the Vale, is funded by Europe, the Welsh Government and the Vale of Glamorgan

Assembly Notes



by Vale AM
JANE HUTT
(Minister for Finance and Leader of the House)

Council.

European money supports economic development in our most deprived areas of Wales, but also helps to maintain our rural economies. Recognition of our clean beaches, the quality of our air, the health of our livestock – all have been stimulated by actions at EU level.

Most importantly, the funds we have received from the EU in this round of programmes have helped 139,800 people gain qualifications, supported 49,800 into jobs and enabled 31,600 to continue training.

For business, projects have assisted 11,000 enterprises, helped to create 6,000 enterprises and helped to create 19,600 jobs.

The approval of the EU Budget in July enables us to move forward with our plans for the next round of European programmes with an allocation of grant aid for 2014-2020 of some £2 billion – representing a significant uplift from early estimates as a result of extensive lobbying and inter-governmental negotiations to improve the outcome for Wales – with Derek Vaughan MEP playing a major role in the final Budget discussions.

The Budget will allocate funds regionally to west Wales and the Valleys and east Wales – this time there will be a higher allocation to east Wales, which includes the Vale of Glamorgan.

We have consulted extensively on priorities for the next round of European programmes with the public, private and third sectors. There was strong support for our investment priorities to boost infrastructure, business competitiveness, research and innovation.

That is why Wales and the EU provides a Partnership for Growth and Jobs.

vation and energy, improving skills and helping people into work - all key to the renewal of our economy in Wales.

We are also looking for 'sustainable and inclusive growth' with a new 'Tackling Poverty through Sustainable Employment' priority.

This must be a renewal of our economy which targets and supports our young people and those who are farthest from the job market.

Our commitments to this 'inclusive growth' is at the heart of the Welsh Government's agenda.

As the First Minister, Carwyn Jones AM, has made clear, now is the time for a focus on what really matters to people - and what really matters to the Welsh Government - developing a strong economy, investing in our infrastructure, tackling poverty and creating jobs for a highly skilled workforce.

That is why Wales and the EU provides a Partnership for Growth and Jobs.

Town Mayor meets the Coastwatch



Left to right: Clive Hosken (deputy manager); Rosie Collard (watchkeeper); Clive Wilton (deputy manager); Terry Ewington (manager); and the Mayor, Claire Curtis.

LAST week, Barry town mayor Coun

Claire Curtis, visited the National Coastwatch Station, Nell's Point, Barry Island and was given a conducted tour of the exhibition room situated on the ground floor.

This was followed by a visit to the lookout, where she was introduced to the duty watchkeepers.

The Mayor saw a watch in progress, and was very impressed with the professionalism of the volunteers' knowledge of this part of the Bristol Channel and its coastline.

Coun Curtis was briefed on incidents watchkeepers deal with and skills each volunteer requires to attain a national standard and be

able to take charge of a watch.

Nell's Point was the first of six National Coastwatch Institution stations to open in Wales.

Others are at various locations around the coastline of England – now 49 stations in all.

Next year will mark the 30th anniversary of the founding of the National Coastwatch

Institution, another landmark for the organisation, which will be marked by various celebrations around the country.

Before she ended her visit, manager Terry Ewington thanked the Mayor for the recent grant of £250 awarded by the Barry Town Council to buy vital equipment for the station.

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FILM SHOW RECORD OF PUPILS' ACHIEVEMENTS



YEAR-5 ended the school year at All Saints Church in Wales Primary School with a class assembly when the children celebrated their achievements during the year, both in and out of school, with a film show.

Their achievements through the school council, ECO and SNAG committees and gardening club, sport and dance clubs and musical activities were highlighted.

The children also mentioned their fundraising initiatives for charity, such as the Poppy Appeal, the Shoebox Appeal and Children in Need.

They enacted the Parable of the Talents from the Bible.

The pupils also celebrated the gardening club's achievement in obtaining joint third place in the Vale of Glamorgan Best Kept Village Competition (schools' section).

Ashton Varney and Chloe Hawkins are pictured holding the certificate.

After the award ceremony at Daffyfryn Gardens, a National Trust member helped the children to make scarecrows.

Year-5 teacher, Miss Saunders, who helps run the gardening club, said she was "very proud" of the children's success.

New CF centre opens



ABOVE:

For Llandough Hospital it was a 'red letter' day when the new Cystic Fibrosis Unit was opened by Welsh Health Minister, Professor Mark Drakeford and Beth Davey from Barry (both centre of picture).

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Dr Ketchell continued: "The new centre will enable our team to work much more cohesively and effectively for the patients in our care, both now and in the future."

'Better Life Appeal'

Lorraine Speight, the centre's manager, said the team was already planning for the next step in development.

She said: "The re-launch of the 'Better Life Appeal' at the end of the official opening, to raise the funds required to open the in-patient ward, was

met with great support and enthusiasm from those attending."

A blessing and dedication was carried out by Reverend Trevor Williams and Avril Dafydd-Lewis, the board chaplains. Music was provided on the day by the harpist Liberty Welch.

Further information about the centre and the Better Life Appeal can be obtained from Lorraine on 02920 715382 or by mail to Lorraine Speight, All Wales Adult CF Centre, University Hospital Llandough, CF64 2XX.

DID YOU KNOW?
You can read your
GEM online:
barry-today.co.uk

Grim threat to our wildlife

RECENTLY (and

for the first time ever) 25 of the

UK's leading wildlife organisations joined forces to undertake a head count of nature and discover just how under threat it is.

The 'State of Nature' report confirms our

worst fears, that our

wildlife is declining at

an alarming rate.

In the last 50 years, 60 per cent of the

species monitored have

declined, over half of

them substantially.

One in 10 species is under threat of extinction; hedgehogs have declined by around a third since the millennium; the small tortoise shell butterfly has declined in abundance by 77 per cent in the last ten years and turtle doves have declined by 93 per cent since 1970.

Losses of European eel have been so great that it is considered at

extremely high risk of extinction globally; UK bird populations are down by 44 million since the 1960s; and we have lost 98 per cent of our wildflower meadows since the 1950s.

I strongly believe that this groundbreaking report cannot and must not be ignored.

To just file it away on some dusty governmental shelf would be a crime against the Natural World itself.

We all have a duty to act on its grim findings.

Everyone must play their role in reversing this downward spiral; individuals, communities, businesses, farmers and charities all need to work together to help save the Nature of Britain, to finally stand up for our wildlife.

Coun Rob Curtis, Barry (Biodiversity Champion for the Vale of Glamorgan)

Barry ladies are invited to a celebration at the Palace!

BARRY supporters of Tenovus recently met the Princess Royal in Buckingham Palace, to celebrate the charity's 70th birthday at a royal reception.

Princess Anne, patron of Tenovus, greeted guests in the Picture Gallery of Buckingham Palace, along with fellow Tenovus patron Rob Brydon.

The Barry Friends group met Princess Anne and Rob Brydon, and Mary Thomas, a member of the Barry Friends group – and an active fundraiser and volunteer for over 46 years – was chosen to present Princess Anne with a posy (above).

Tenovus is continuing to celebrate its 70th birthday and there are many ways to get involved. Visit tenovus.org.uk or call 029 2076 8850 to find out more.



'We aim to keep the elderly and their pets together' SAYS TRUST

A national charity that aims to keep elderly and terminally ill people united with their pets has made an appeal on behalf of a Bridgend resident.

For an old person who has developed a strong bond with a dog, a cat or another animal, it can be very distressing to have to give up that 'close friend' because the individual has to go into hospital for a number of weeks.

And for someone who is dying, having a much-loved pet with them can offer a great solace in their final days.

Sally Collins of the Cinnamon Trust, which is based in Cornwall, told The GEM: "We are a national charity for the elderly and terminally ill and their pets.

"We seek to keep

by TIM CHAPMAN

owner and pet together for as long as possible with the help of a national network of volunteers who assist when day to day care poses a problem.

"Our aim is to relieve the owners of any worry concerning the welfare of their pets both during and after their own lifetime making us unique amongst charities."

Sally appealed: "We are urgently looking for dog walking volunteers to help a resident of Bridgend.

"Volunteers help in the ways that are most appropriate to them.

"Teams take it in turn to visit housebound owners, to take dogs for daily walks. Some volunteers foster pets as one of their family while owners face a spell in hospital.

"They will take pets to the vet, or visit to clean out the budgie's cage! We tackle any problem posed in the day to day care of pets."

Two years ago The GEM issued an appeal on behalf of the trust for a woman in Llanwit Major. A team of three dog walkers were visiting the house to take out the woman's dog on different days.

One volunteer was due to leave the area and a replacement walker was found.

If you would like to volunteer to help the Bridgend resident, or would like more information on the trust, Sally can be contacted directly on 01736 758707 or you can email sallycollins@cinnamon.org.uk. The official website is: www.cinnamon.org.uk.

Activity day
BULLIESOUT, usually known for its work in schools, workplaces and online against bullying, is holding an activity day at Penarth Community Centre, on Thursday, August 8 for local schoolchildren.

There will be two sessions, from 10.30am until 12.30pm and 1.30pm until 3.30pm; sessions will be aimed at children aged between five and 15 years old - contact 029 2049 2169.

Couple's barbecue boosts Ty Hafan

RESIDENTS Huw and Liz Allaway held their annual fundraising barbecue on Saturday July 27 at their Colcot Road home in Barry.

Workplace colleagues, past and present, from the local NHS payroll department helped raise over £100 for Ty Hafan, despite the unwelcome rain.

A raffle was held supported by local businesses including Broad Street Garden Centre and YuME Hair and Beauty (Cardiff).

"Many thanks to all who attended," said Huw.

VALE MP's VIEWPOINT

Why should Cardiff get more funding than Vale?

Two weeks ago, I revealed the poor financial settlement we in Barry and the Vale receive from the Welsh Government, according to House of Commons research, and the response to that article has been overwhelming.

I have, therefore, set up an online petition to highlight to Welsh Government Ministers the strength of feeling locally.

You can find the petition on my website, aluncairns.co.uk and I hope that you consider supporting it.

Local residents are angry that the Vale receives one of the lowest financial settlements per person across the whole of Wales.

The Vale receives £202 less per person than Cardiff; £226 less than Bridgend and £409 less than Rhondda Cynon Taff.

If we received the same funding per person as Cardiff council, we would gain an extra £25.6m. Imagine what we could achieve in the regeneration of Barry and the towns of the rural Vale with that type of funding year in, year out.

A fair level of funding



**Vale MP
Alun Cairns**
reports to
GEM readers

would also give us lower council taxes. Last year, we experienced one of the highest increases across Wales. On the other side of the boundary, Cardiff had a freeze in council tax levels.

People naturally understand that needs differ across Wales and that money granted to each council needs to reflect that.

However, we have got to the point where the Vale is subsidising parts of Wales that are more prosperous.

Cardiff is one of the most prosperous cities across the UK.

Most worrying is the way the funding gap is widening. The difference with Cardiff last year was £77 per person. We cannot see the gap continue to widen on this basis. The gap with Bridgend also deteriorates.

Regeneration of Barry is a key priority. We cannot make significant progress on this without appropriate funding. Using a fraction of the £25m that we are short-changed would have a major impact.

I have asked the Vale Council what efforts they have made in their discussions with the Welsh Government on this issue and will advise you as soon as I receive a response. We cannot continue to be treated this way.

In the meantime, please sign the online petition. The more noise we make, the more we will be heard.

For too long, the Vale has been used as a cash-cow for the rest of Wales.

At a time when services are being cut back, we cannot be taken for granted in this way.

The situation has to change.

—

BARRY CADETS TAKE TO THE AIR AT ST ATHAN

RECENTLY, four Air Cadets from 372 (Barry) Squadron flew in the modern Vigilant glider at MoD St Athan, gaining at first hand the sensation of glider flying.

Arriving early in the morning at 634 Volunteer Gliding Squadron, the cadets were immediately given detailed safety, weather, flying and operational briefs relating to the day's activities.

This was also the point at which the cadets were introduced to their pilots and ground staff who would be looking after them.

The aim of the day was to gain experience of flying the glider under the guidance of the pilot, using the control column and rudder pedals.

Each flight typically lasts 20-30 minutes, flying at about 1,500 feet is sufficient to carry out all the training on each particular sortie, as well as providing excellent aerial views of the Vale.

The cadets were surprised at just how easy it felt to fly the glider.

The cadets: Ellie Poulakis (16), Alex Spragg (14), Pippa

Cowles (14) and Vicky Williams (13) thoroughly enjoyed themselves. In the process they learnt about glider flying at first hand while passing their Gliding Induction Course, with "flying colours".

Ellie commented about the flight: "That was really exciting and I can't wait to fly again. It was an amazing flight".

The Air Cadets also undertake many other exciting activities, including adventure training, shooting, sport, field craft, project work and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, expeditions and camps to RAF Stations around the United Kingdom.

If you have a spirit for adventure, 372 (Barry) Squadron have vacancies for boys and girls between 13 - 18 years old.

The Squadron parade on Mondays and Wednesdays 7pm - 9.30pm behind Adams Funeral Parlour (by the Memorial Hall) or you can phone the Squadron on 01446 747734 or email oc.372@aircadets.org.

JASON HORTON



Alex Spragg.



ELLIE POULAKIS.



PIPPA COWLES.

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Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes but not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Branch Manager Phil Powell feels that it's all about service. "Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although

that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service the Vale, Bridgend, RCT and Porthcawl areas and Phil is finding that his

approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've

done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Phil a call for a free quotation on

0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!



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CF63 4HD

Council's £55,550 to local causes

The Vale Council has awarded £55,550 in grants to 119 local voluntary organisations under its community grants awards scheme.

Council leader Coun Neil Moore said: "The council would like to thank the multitude of volunteers throughout the Vale who selflessly give up so much time and effort to help their community.

"Whether it's for sports teams, the arts, helping the vulnerable or improving their surroundings, their hard work and dedication is a fine example to us all," Coun Moore added.

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BARRY ISLAND WEEKENDERS 2013

FREE FAMILY EVENTS EVERY WEEKEND AT BARRY ISLAND

20 & 21 July The Isle of Fire

Barry Island will be transformed into a lost island Fire Garden. Explore this fiery landscape inspired by tales of the deep, where legends of fire breathing flowers, enchanted glowing trees and a Viking ghost ship long lost in time are all brought to life. From dusk each day.

27 & 28 July Street Dance

Featuring Team Extreme performances and workshops on Sat and Sun. Sunday will be packed with performances from local groups from Motion Control Dance. 11am to 4pm each day.

3 & 4 August Street Art

Let loose your artistic flair by drawing on the mini cubes along the prom or try the free graffiti workshops. All ages welcome -11am to 4pm each day.

10 & 11 August Zapcats

Fast and furious Zapcat powerboat action. The adrenalin - pumped racing will take place on both days from 11am.

17 & 18 August Seaside Sport

Enjoy a host of sports by the sea. Take part in Beach Volleyball, Disability sports and Beach cricket. Try your skills on the surf simulator and the climbing wall and explore the Play Village. The England Beach Soccer Team will also be on the beach. The event will end with Zumba on the Prom with Andrea - Sunday at 5pm.

24 & 25 August Cinema by the Sea

Enjoy an evening of cinema by the sea
Saturday from 8.30pm BACK TO THE FUTURE
Sunday from 8.30pm GREASE SING-A-LONG

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All events take place along the prom or Island Gardens. Please note events may change at short notice. For more information please call 01446 704737 or go to www.visitthevale.com

'Outstanding achievement'



Miss Martha Okon receiving the Glyn Roach Cup.

Author's contact with hero's family

BARRY author and retired RAF pilot, Ron Powell, has been contacted by the nephew and niece of Pilot Officer Laurie Whitbread, the Battle of Britain pilot to whom his book, *Wings Over Summer*, is dedicated.

They were able to tell Ron more about their uncle, and about a surprise link from his own childhood.

Ron explained: "I was contacted by Delme Whitbread, Laurie's nephew, who lives in Shrewsbury. Delme said how delighted he was at the dedication of the book and gave me more detail about his uncle, and his tragic death.

"Laurie Whitbread was born in Ludlow and went to the local grammar school. "He joined the RAF six months before the start of the Second World War and, during the Battle of Britain, was flying Spitfires on 222 Squadron at RAF Duxford in Cambridgeshire, the same base as Douglas Bader.

"On September 9, 1940, he shot down a Messerschmitt 109, but then, on September 20, his Spitfire was hit by a Messerschmitt in a surprise attack over Rochester, Kent.

"The aircraft crashed and, although Laurie was thrown clear of the wreckage, he did not survive. He was 26 years old.

"As a child, I used to pass Laurie's grave in a cemetery in Ludlow, and I've continued to pay my respects on my regular visits to the town. My late parents are buried nearby.

"Laurie was one of the major inspirations for my 32-year RAF career, but also for *Wings Over Summer*.

"The book is set among the air battles over southern England in the summer of 1940, but one of the two main characters is a Spitfire pilot from Barry."

Ron was also put in touch with Sally Stubbs, daughter of Laurie's sister, who lives in Ludlow.

She confirmed that her mother, Vera Bodenham, was one of his junior school teachers.

He continued: "We youngsters all knew Mrs Bodenham's brother had been shot down in the war, but if I ever knew he was Laurie Whitbread, I'd long forgotten the fact, and I would never have dreamt that, nearly 50 years later, I would dedicate a novel to him.

"*Wings Over Summer* is selling really well, and has been in the top 50 war fiction books on Amazon for the last few weeks.

"It also received a favourable review on the BBC Radio Wales book programme, *Phil The Shelf*, aired on July 22."

The final surprise for Ron is being asked to do a book signing, something he thought only happened to other people.

"I will be signing copies of *Wings Over Summer* in Castle Book Shop in Ludlow at 11am on Saturday (August 3). Delme Whitbread says he will be there with some memorabilia, including his uncle's flying jacket."



Pilot Officer
Laurie Whitbread.

JUNIOR members drawn from Presbyterian churches throughout south Wales, recently enjoyed a Christian weekend away at Trefeca College near Brecon.

Led by Mrs June Maxwell and Mrs Gail Wiley from Windsor Road Presbyterian Church, Caerphilly, the highlight was an award of 'The Glyn Roach Cup' for outstanding achievement to Miss Martha Okon, who with her sister Hannah and parents Mark and Tara, are members of Bethania Presbyterian Church, Pendoylan.

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'BEST YET STRAWBERRY TEA AT DINAS POWYS!'



Jenn Stamp, befriending volunteer, with granddaughter Ffion (who travelled 10,000 miles to be at the Tea) and Val Hartrey.

DINAS Powys Voluntary Concern held their annual strawberry tea in the Lee Hall and Gardens Dinas Powys on a warm Wednesday afternoon.

This community event has become a red letter day in the social calendar in Dinas Powys and lived up to all expectations. It is an example of the way in which the residents and organisations in this village work together for the benefit of the whole community.

Once again, members of Dinas Powys WI donated and served a wonderful range of cakes and refreshments and served the delicious strawberries. The fruit was kindly donated by Huw Evans of Budgens on Cardiff Road.

Volunteers from DPVC set out tables in the Lee Hall and gardens and the Village Show kindly provided and set up their

gazebo to give shade.

The Georgia Jazz Quartet played traditional jazz and feet were tapping all afternoon! Some were even dancing! "The best strawberry tea yet!" was one comment.

The chairman of DPVC, John Fanshaw, thanked everyone for a great afternoon, one of a range of community events, and one which provided much-needed funds for a charity that provides local help for local people.

The community club will continue to operate through the summer period. It is open to all with no entrance charge. The programme includes Local History - Talk by Joan Andrews, August 12; Bank Holiday Beetle Drive, August 26 and on September 9 there's an update on developments in Lesotho, a nation in

southern Africa that is twinned with Wales, by Colin Turner.

CF

Rural competition heads for Gileston

THE committee of the Vale of Glamorgan Ploughing and Hedging Society recently met at the Six Bells in Penmark to make final arrangements for a ploughing match at Gileston Farm St Athan, CF62 4HX on Sunday, September 8.

This year's prize card has been increased across all classes. The Aberthin Tractor Boys and the Glamorgan Iron Horse Society have been invited to put on displays of tractors and equipment.

A spokesman said: "At the suggestion of the chairman, Andrew Studley, it was agreed that the public be invited to the event to make it a family day out and there will be no entry fee or parking charges.

"Last year, a new class was introduced for young farmers with large tractors and ploughs and this will be

staged again this year, where competitors take a couple of turns up the field and will be judged on their workmanship."

The chairman welcomed the Ferguson Club who will be staging their European T20 Ploughing Championships at the event. The Ferguson championship is open to the little grey Ferguson T20 with the original general purpose, two-furrow plough, and will be run under the Ferguson Club Rules.

Already, more than a dozen entries have been received for this championship with competitors coming from Holland, in addition to those from the home countries.

Visitors to the ploughing events on September 8 are also welcome to take part in a photographic competition which will take place on the day. Details will be available at the Ferguson Club stand mid-morning.

MOTHS WATCH

COWBRIDGE Community College is inviting the public to "come and see what moths are flying" on Friday, August 9 (9.30pm-midnight) in Old Hall grounds; weather permitting (bring a torch).

Moths on show the next morning (Saturday) in the Old Hall grounds, 9.30am-11am. (CALL 01446 773373 FOR DETAILS).



Irene unites both sides of estuary

RECENTLY, Mayor of the Vale, Coun Margaret Wilkinson, welcomed the Mayor of Minehead and visitors aboard the *Irene*, to celebrate historic links with the English town, Minehead.

Irene is a West Country trading ketch built in 1907 and owned by the same family since 1965. Following a complete rebuild lasting six years, *Irene* is now used as both a sail training vessel and a sustainable cargo business.

The ship was sailed across from Minehead to Barry by a group of young people from the YMCA and West



Photos by John O'Beirne, Vale Press Pictures.

Somerset Community College and met students from the Vale Youth Service. The two groups exchanged symbolic hampers of local produce. They will be raffled to raise funds for the Vale Youth Service. Back row: Coun Val Welch, Hope Centre in Mayor of Minehead and Minehead and for the Coun Margaret Vale Mayor's charities. Wilkinson, Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan. In the photograph are Joel McGuiness, West

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Communities' special effort praised by the Best Kept Village organisers

AFTER the judging of the Vale's 'Best Kept Village' competition was complete, the organisers congratulated a number of Vale villages for their efforts.

Gileston were the overall winners, with Llanmaes second, Wenveo third and Pendoylan in fourth.

However, special mention has been made of the various 'special features' that were created by the contestants.

• **Gileston's** Diamond Jubilee feature, entitled 'Four Crowns for Four Seasons'.

The judges were impressed with the setting, at the roadside where it could be seen from all the roads leading into the village.

The chair of the BKV committee, Irena Wasilewska, said the feature was 'well-designed and immaculately executed and a good interpretation of the diamond jubilee theme'.

• **Gileston's** 'Griff's Cottage' feature; this was one of two derelict buildings in the centre of the village which could have been an eyesore, but the judges felt that

careful thought and creative work had made a beneficial impact on the village.

Gileston was also praised for its floral displays on its waste bin and around the signpost in the village.

Chief judge,

Rosamund Davies, said of Gileston: "Although a small village, I felt there was a huge community effort and evidence from the start that hard work from all the residents had taken place to keep the village looking its best."

"All hedgerows, walls and kerbs were exceptionally well maintained and the village green was delightful, with a thoughtfully placed garden seat under mature weeping trees."

"The green had been cleverly planted along the base of a wall and the border was neat, not a weed in sight! A well deserved winner."

Llanmaes was praised for its boules pitch and Diamond Jubilee Garden.

Rosamund Davies said: "The new diamond jubilee garden has been beautifully designed and borders the boules pitch. "The planting looks rather special and I am sure it will mature into a



ABOVE: Gileston residents proudly display their Best Kept Village trophy.



ABOVE: Irena Wasilewska 'phones home' from Colwinston!



Gileston's floral waste bin and signpost!



ABOVE: Gileston's 'Four Crowns for Four Seasons'.

Vale's historic treasures

TINKINSWOOD and St Lythan's burial chamber in the Vale, are among Wales's top 10 archaeological sites named by Culture Minister John Griffiths AM and heritage body Cadw, at the launch of the Welsh Government's Community Archaeology Framework.

The Minister said: "Wales's historic environment is second to none and Cadw, which takes its name from the Welsh phrase 'to keep', is charged with looking after it. As part of this charge, Cadw manages 129 properties which are in state care."

"As well as the grandeur and solidity of our world-famous castles, and the soaring grace of our religious houses, this portfolio includes a host of historic gems all across Wales and a timespan of around 6,000 years."

"Tinkinswood and St Lythan's burial chambers are impressive monuments that date back to the time of the first farmers, around 6,000 years ago and are

one of the few clues we have into life in that faraway period. They are burial monuments, places to honour the ancestors."

"Excavated in the 19th century by antiquarians in search of treasures, they have remained a fascination right up to the present day."



ABOVE: Part of Llanmaes' Diamond Jubilee garden.

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PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS

Two Megs, Bronte and Bracken lead the way!

WARM evening sunshine with a pleasant breeze, greeted the eight walkers who joined Joy, Bronte and Bracken at Rhoose railway station and, with Labrador Meg and sheepdog Meg, set off through the fields at Rhoose Point adjacent to the railway line.

Joining the Wales Coastal Path through Fontygary caravan park, they descended the cliff steps to the salt lagoons, which are refreshed by the incoming tide and the two Megs couldn't contain themselves, plunging into the salty pools to cool off.

Once, Pleasant Harbour was a thriving port where the River Thaw exited into the Bristol Channel, but when Aberthaw power

station was built in 1966, the river was re-routed and a sea defence wall was built along the coast to Gileston.

The group had misty views towards Minehead, the Somerset coastline and parts of Exmoor and the still waters of the lake mirrored the outline of the ruined Lime Works opened in 1888, producing lime that had hydraulic properties and could be used in the construction of harbours and docks as it was able to set quickly in wet conditions.

Passing through the reed beds, they waded through tall yellow melilot on a path behind the wooded grassy slopes of the waste material from the power station, spotting evening primrose, vetch teasels and thistles just beginning to turn purple and great drifts of willow herb, before reaching

Well Road which led them to East Aberthaw.

Passing the lovely old thatched Blue Anchor inn that dates back to 1380, and resisting the urge to stop for refreshment, the group continued up the quiet Port Road where farmers were on tractors working in the fields.

They had views across the massive quarry towards the cement works near Burton Hill, before continuing through Nurston, where they joined an old bridleway – stopping to give the dogs a well-earned drink.

As the sun began to lower in the western sky they returned through barley fields on the edge of the airport to Rhoose village, and made their way back to their start.

On August 8, meet at 8.30am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a 4-mile mod/hard walk in the Doethie Valley and Soar y Mynydd on the edge of the Cambrians;

JOY STRANGWARD

JANUARY DATE FOR RAIL LOCAL STATION PLATFORM

AT a meeting with Network Rail, route director Mark Langman, and Dylan Bowen the public affairs director, Jane Hutt AM heard that the new platform at Barry town station will be completed by January 2014.

"I am also pressing for an upgrade to Barry town station and more frequent services on the western Vale line – all possible now with the multi-million infrastructure investment which removes barriers to these important developments," the AM commented.



ABOVE: Mark Langman and Dylan Bowen update the Vale AM on the new railway platform.

Fun day with an asthma message

ABMU Health Board and Asthma UK Cymru, are hosting a special information fun day for primary schoolchildren with asthma on Sunday, August 4 at Bridgend Recreation Centre from 11am until 2pm; entry is free.

"Children can enjoy a tea party, bouncy castle and face painting, as well as many other activities. There will also be information available about asthma and a nurse specialist on hand to answer any questions that parents or children may have," said Andrew Carrick, planning and partnership support manager for ABMU Health

Board.

"We want to engage with families and give them the opportunity to speak to an asthma nurse specialist with any questions they have. It is also a chance for us to educate children about their condition in a fun and interesting way.

"There will be interactive learning sessions for children, and they'll be given a pack to help them take responsibility for their condition, with help from parents. We would encourage children with asthma and their families to come along and see how we can help," he added.

For more information, telephone 029 2043 5400 or email chailey@asthma.org.uk.

ENFYS FAIR

ENFYS Craft Fairs will be holding their next event in Barry on Saturday (August 3) at St Ffransis

Millennium Hall, Park Road from 10am – 4pm; entrance is free.

In addition to the usual stalls this month will be scented candles, crocheted items, cake stands made from antique bone china plates and items made from driftwood.

The named charity of the August fair will be Amelia Trust Farm.

For more information, contact 01446 418695/400149.

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GEM READERS' LETTERS EXTRA

'Talent is alive and well in Barry!' SAYS THE TOWN MAYOR

OVER the last few days, I have been treated to some wonderful entertainment and am proud that we have such talented and committed people here in Barry.

On Thursday evening, I attended the Barry Arts Centre at the Colcot and was delighted by the singing and dancing of the Changing Scenes Theatre Group, who ranged from three-year-olds right up to adults.

Under the direction of Emma Lee Wagner, they sang, danced and acted their way through one musical number after another, to the delight of the audience.

The Barry Arts Centre may only be a small venue, but they know how to put on a show and if you like sequins, this was the place to be!

Friday evening saw me at the Barry Memorial Hall for Billboard's performance of *Anything Goes*.

The singing and dancing was just wonderful, but the quality of the

scenery and costumes was second to none and it brings home that there are so many people who work behind the scenes to make the show a success as well as those on stage.

The musical direction for Billboard comes from Emma Arscott, who is well known in Barry for her hard work with various musical groups in the town; which brings me nicely into my third day of entertainment when

Emma accompanied the Barry Male Voice Choir in my civic service on

Sunday July 28, once again in the Memorial Hall.

The Barry Male Voice Choir, under the directorship of Dorothy Connell, never fail to entertain and they certainly uphold the reputation of the wonderful sound of the Welsh male voice choir and I am proud to say they belong to Barry.

Guests at the civic service were not only treated to singing from the choir but also to the vocal talents of a young lady who attends Ysgol

Gyfun Bro Morgannwg here in Barry, a Miss Jodie Bird.

Jodie sang a stunning, a cappella version of Amazing Grace in the first half of the service which had the audience spellbound, and followed this later with a Welsh version of Fields of Gold.

I would advise you to make a note of this name, as Jodie is definitely a star for the future.

We have such talent here in Barry and I would like to thank the

dedicated children and adults who star in these productions, people like

Emma Lee, Emma and Dorothy for directing

the talent to be the best they can.

To everyone who works behind the scenes, whether you sew on sequins, paint scenery, look after the lighting or

if you are the dedicated parent supplying funds, taxi service and support, thank you all.

COUN CLAIRE CURTIS
Mayor of Barry

VALEWAYS WALKS

AUGUST 11, 2pm.

Hidden Valley; St Brides's Major by

catle grid.

August 14, 10.30 pm.

Llantwit Beach - the other way;

Llantwit Major railway station car

park.

August 15, 10.30 am.

Coffee Shop strollers; Rhoose rail-

way station car park.

Tues August 20, 1.30pm.

The Lake in the Woods; Hensol

Forest car park, Welsh St Donats

(Grid ref 032768).

August 21, 10.30am.

Coffee Shop Strollers; Barry Hub,

Cold Knap, Barry, outside Bridge

Cafe.

August 22, 10am.

'On the other side of the tracks' -

2hrs; Sycamore Tree Inn,

Colwinston.

August 25.

Llysfaen/Mynydd Caerfili; Maes

parcio Tafarn Ty Mawr,

Llysfaen/Lisvane.

August 25, 2pm.

Seven County View; Peterston Super

Ely by footbridge.

Walks last for 60 - 90 minutes

except the 'Coffee Shop Strollers',

which is an easy walk, accessible to

all.

'Clarification on seagulls?'

IT was with great dismay that I learnt that after our glorious council's decision to prioritise seagulls over ongoing building demolition work, that they have now been joined in championing 'our feathered friends' by another taxpayer-funded arm of the public sector, the Fire Service.

Not once but twice they attended to a young seagull 'stuck' on the roof of a Holton road building (shutting the road with two fire engines) only to see their efforts come to naught after it did what comes naturally... and then flew off...

Is there a reciprocal agreement with the Flatholm Avian Posse (FLAP) that if humans ever need assistance they will flock to assist mob-handed?

Surely if a member of the public did call saying a bird was stuck, it might be wiser to point out that potential fire-fighting was a priority and that, anyway, the bird would just fly away?

I am, to put it politely, fascinated as to the decision-making process taken to release these resources, given that there is always the chance of an actual fire with potential injuries/fatalities ever present and would appreciate any clarification.

Richard Cook,
Barry

money to Brussels?

We could regain control of our borders. At present, the rule appears to be that we have to let Europeans gatecrash this country in order that we can gatecrash theirs. Good fences make good neighbours.

We could save the large amounts of money that we give to the EU. Large amounts of this it loses (no audited accounts for 18 years).

Some it wastes on exercises, such as the monthly trek between Brussels and Strasbourg.

Then it gives us back some of what is left and tells us how to spend it.

And then it makes us put up flags demonstrating our gratitude at being given back some of our own money.

What sort of deal is that, when we could decide ourselves what wants doing? And I do wish someone would do an exposé of MEPs' expenses claims!

It would become apparent that the impetus behind the bottomless pit which is HS2 is (as with HS1 to Dover) none other than the EU with its directive for Common Fisheries Policy.

We could take control of our foreign aid budget. A large part of this is administered by Brussels. If your readers wanted to donate money to a good cause would they (a) choose one; (b) let the UK Government choose one; (c) send the

I think that will do for a start.

RH Bradshaw,
Cowbridge

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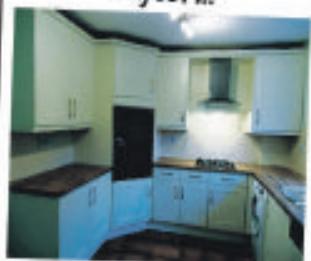
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Train ride, toys and ices on the beach at Barry Island...



RECENTLY, Philly Bear's Playgroup based at Barry 5th Sea Scout Hall, took the children to the beach, by train from Barry Dock to Barry Island.

Some of the children had never been on a train before and found it very exciting, and they had plenty of space to be able to look out of the windows.

At the Island, we all walked down to the beach which was fairly empty, so the children could go down to the water in small groups and collect water to play with and paddle in.

They also got to talk to the lifeguards. Some of the children took a while to get used to the sand but once they did, enjoyed digging around and playing with all the toys that were there for them.

At snack time, they enjoyed having a picnic and lots to drink as the weather was so hot. All the time, the children were checked that they had enough sun screen on and sun hats to keep them safe.

Having arranged with John Zeraschi a few days earlier, we walked the children to his beach



front café to have ice creams. They all handed over their money to pay and then sat on the wall to eat them which they were very excited about.

When we all got back on the beach, it was very busy, so it was decided to leave the beach early, to ensure that all the children were kept safe.

We arrived at the train station early, so the children got to have more drink and biscuits whilst we were waiting and to see the men setting up the model railway.

At Barry Dock, their parents were waiting for the children to hear about their adventure.

This week, we had to say goodbye to some of the children as they are going to School in September, so wish them good luck as they are not attending playgroup during the holidays.

PW

New airport bus service

THE new express bus service - 'Cardiff Airport Express', due to start today (August 1) and funded by the Welsh Government - will provide more frequent, comfortable and speedier journeys for travellers between Cardiff Airport and the city centre, says the Vale of Glamorgan AM, Jane Hutt.

"This is great news - high quality, convenient and affordable public transport to and from Cardiff Airport is vital for its future."



Apprentice Alex to open hospice fete

THIS Saturday, August 3, the Marie Curie hospice's annual garden party and fete will take place and be opened in Penarth by Alex Mills from TV's 'The Apprentice'.

There will be entertainment from the New Orleans Parade Band, singing from local children's theatre group - The Big Talent, as well as the usual face painting, children's games, a tasty barbecue, courtesy of hospice chef Graham White and his team, a raffle with the chance to win some great prizes, including a TV and Eurostar tickets and, of course, the usual stalls where you can pick up a bargain.

"The gate will be opened at 12.30pm and it will cost £1 for adults who will then be entered into a lucky programme draw with the chance of winning afternoon tea for two at St David's Hotel. Children are free to enter. So why not come along with the whole family for a fun day out?" said Deborah



ALEX MILLS.

Hooper, hospice fundraising assistant.

"Last year, we were sad to cancel the garden party as the hospice was closed during the summer while it underwent a big refurbishment.

"We are thrilled to be organising it this year, as it's such a popular event among the community in Penarth and the Vale of Glamorgan, and we hope that even more people will come along to support us on the day.

"We rely on donations and income from events like these to keep the hospice going and thank the local community for their support."

"Call the fundraising office at the Hospice on 029 2042 6068 for more details. We look forward to seeing you on the day

STROKE UNIT TO OPEN IN THE AUTUMN



ABOVE: Ron Walton (left) chairman of Vale 50+ Strategy forum health group and Peter Walsh, hospital manager, University Hospital Llandough.

THE

new

stroke rehabilitation unit at the Llandough Hospital, will open in the autumn, general manager Peter Walsh has told the health group of the Vale 50+ Forum.

The unit is fast nearing completion, and the multi-level car park is also on schedule to be completed at the same time, enabling work to start on the state-of-the-art mental health unit and modern concourse. "Llandough Hospital, far from being an outmoded general hospital,

is becoming a centre of excellence in rehabilitation, orthopaedics, stroke and treatment of older people," said Forum chairman Ron Walton.

If you have an interest in health, age discrimination, transport, housing, art, craft and leisure; and can attend bi-monthly meetings contact J Porter, Older People's Coordinator, VOGC (01446 452021) or email jporter@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk for more information. Visit website at valeopf@webplus.net for forum news.

Local children are chosen for Only Kids Aloud

TEN local children have been selected to sing in the Wales Millennium Centre/Only Kids Aloud Choir.

In 2012, Wales Millennium Centre teamed up with Only Men Aloud's Musical Director Tim Rhys Evans to form a joint choir of children from across Wales. They have again joined forces and have been looking for talented youngsters between the ages of 9 and 13, to form the 2013/14 choir.

Wales Millennium Centre has named the 70 children chosen to repre-

sent Wales in this new choir.

Among them are: Ioan Lloyd from Bridgend; Lucy Miles from Barry; Rebekah West from Dinas Powys; Zoe Mules from Penarth; and Williams Davies, Huw Jones, Tanwen Mair Cray, Efa Angharad Cray, Nel Rhys Lewis all from the Cowbridge area; and Celyn Lewis, Pontyclun.

Steve Williams, creative learning officer at Wales Millennium Centre said: "We had 410 auditions in total, and it's been a tough process choosing just 70."



£885 raised to Help the Heroes

WYNDHAM Conservative Club in Harbour Road, Barry, held a fundraising barbecue which raised £885 for the Help for Heroes charity.

Organised by the club steward, Richard Alexander, with the help of family, friends and the club, the 'Bear-B-Q' supported veterans, serving personnel and the families of those who have been wounded or injured, or have become sick, as a result of serving their country.

Richard said: "A big thank you to everyone from myself and the Wyndham Conservative Club. I enjoyed tremendous help and support for the cause, and a special thanks to all those who contributed, both in terms of donations and support, and, indeed, for just turning up on the night."

Volunteers praised



VALE councillor for Castleton ward, Barry, Chris Elmore, is pictured at the Food Co-Operative with volunteer Catherine Kinson, of the People's Centre on the Thompson Street estate.

He praised the food co-op, which provides fresh vegetables, fruit and eggs, and the dedicated team of volunteers who support the scheme.

NEWS FROM BARRY COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

Pupils win a prize in schools competition



Students outside Merseyside Maritime Museum.



Lewis Hazelwood and Connor Allison collect their prize at the Millennium Stadium.

Jordan crosses the border, and swaps his beret!



SSGT Jordan Whiteley, a member of Northumberland ACF, has recently moved down from Newcastle and has transferred to the Dyfed and Glamorgan ACF.

He has taken on the role of senior cadet in the Barry ACF Detachment.

Although he is returning to the north, for his annual camp with the Northumberland Battalion, he looks forward to becoming a valued member of Barry detachment.

He will be pursuing

his Gold Duke of Edinburgh award through the ACF, and hopes to be going on a cadet leadership course very soon.

But for now he is getting used to the Welsh accent!

In the photo, above, he is changing his beret from the Royal Fusiliers of the Northumberland Battalion ACF, to the one worn by Royal Welsh Regiment cadets of the Dyfed and Glamorgan Battalion ACF.

Army cadets parade at 7pm to 9pm on Tuesday and Thursday and can be contacted on 07761-566-160.

BARRY Comprehensive School entered the Welsh Heritage Schools Initiative annual competition for the first time, and won a prize.

The aim of the initiative is to encourage pupils across Wales to take a greater interest in their heritage through a nationwide competition. The project requires research, collection of materials, analysis and evaluation, and communication skills. Schools are visited by judges who assess the project.

Barry Comprehensive School was represented by a group of year-10 students – Connor Allison, Fabian Britten, Lewis Hazelwood, Harry Lambert, Tom Jones, Ross Merrills and James Scott. All the boys worked extremely hard throughout their investigation into the reasons for the building of Barry Docks.

They created a PowerPoint presentation and a wall display, planned and delivered a lesson to year-7 pupils and devised a homework pack for year-9 pupils. Their work is due to be displayed in the local library.

The awards ceremony took place in the Millennium Stadium and prizes were awarded for the best projects in each category: infant, primary, secondary and special schools.

These prizes were presented by the sponsors who donated them. Lewis and Connor collected the prize from Admiral Group plc on behalf of the school.

A huge well done to the boys who took part – they should be very proud of what they achieved – and the history department looks forward to building upon this success in next year's competition.

Recently, 42 year-9 students from the school visited the International Slavery Museum in Liverpool.

The focus of the trip was to hear the untold stories of enslaved people and to learn about historical and contemporary slavery.

There are three main galleries in the museum – 'Life in West Africa', 'Enslavement and the Middle Passage', and 'Legacies of Slavery'. The boys found the second gallery especially helpful, as they are currently studying the transatlantic slave trade.

It revealed some of the brutality suffered by enslaved Africans on the voyage across the Atlantic, and the oppression of their lives on plantations in the Americas.

The museum shares its facilities with the Merseyside Maritime Museum, so the students were able to view other exhibitions. One of great interest was 'Seized! The Border and Customs uncovered'.

Here, the boys entered the world of the Customs officer – a dark and unseen world of smuggling, intrigue and danger, where things are not always what they seem.

There was also time for the students to explore the Albert Dock area. Some took this opportunity to visit 'The Beatles Story' and discovered the stories of the band's lives, times, culture and music.

Liverpool trip looks at history of slavery

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Vale success at the Royal Welsh Show – and a meeting with Prince Charles!

A Poll Dorset ewe from the Kennixton Flock was one of the many livestock exhibits from the Vale to enjoy success at this year's 50th Royal Welsh Show.

The flock, co-owned by Jane Bisset and Derek Frankham from Barry, has enjoyed success at county level and they were keen to have the experience of taking part in the Royal Welsh Show, one of the greatest livestock events in Europe.

The event turned out to be a bitter-sweet experience because on the first day of the show Jane and Derek received a telephone call to say that their prize-winning ram, at home, had colapsed.

Jane told The GEM: "The community at Moulton, where we keep the sheep, are wonderful and we could not have even gone to the show without their support."

"I knew I had to go home, so I left Derek with my show coat and numbers, and suggested that he might be able to find someone to put them on and maybe give him a hand."

Arriving back in the Vale it was clear to Jane that the ram was in a bad way. The vet was called but despite every effort to save him, the following morning he died leaving her devastated.

Meanwhile, back at the show, Mrs Rhiannon Richards and her husband, Philip David, from Bridgend, stepped in to give Derek a hand.

Mrs Richards had been showing in the pony classes and was at the sheep sheds to support her mother, Mrs Elizabeth Matthews, who was also showing Poll Dorset sheep for the first time.

However, they didn't hesitate, and as soon as they found out what had happened, they offered their help.

Derek explained: "Everyone was amazing. When they discovered Jane had been forced to go home, they all rallied round to help."

"Rhiannon was fantastic. I just couldn't have done it without her. Philip was a great



ABOVE: Jane, Faith and Derek present Prince Charles with a gift for his new grandson George.

support, sorting out where I should be with which sheep."

Jane and Derek's granddaughter Faith, aged 6, couldn't contain her excitement when one of the sheep (Poppy) got a sixth place.

AMAZING

Derek continued: "It was a wonderful week. The camaraderie in the sheep shed has been something I have never experienced before."

"The Welsh Dorset Breeders are an amazing bunch and have always made us so welcome, but really this week has been something special for the whole family and we are definitely coming back next year."

"Maybe we'll try less sheep but bring more grandchildren!"

Mrs Elizabeth Matthews from the Vale who was also showing her Poll Dorset sheep for the first time came home with second and sixth places with her ewe lambs and a sixth place with a ram lamb.

Jane said: "For our first Royal Welsh we have had a wonderful experience, the show is an incredible feat of manpower management and planning."

"Getting all the stock, equipment, feed and straw and all the people on and off the show-ground has to be seen to be believed."

"As 'newbies', we didn't really know how everything worked but everyone has been so kind and so helpful it made it a great experience."

On Wednesday,

Prince Charles visited the sheep category at the show and Derek, Jane and Faith were able to give him a gift for George his new grandson – a Poll Dorset sheepskin from the Kennixton Flock which they had produced themselves.

The Prince, a staunch supporter of the sheep industry, thanked the family and was keen to ask about the origin of the skin.

He asked Jane about the curing process and, of course, the breed of sheep from which it had come – and was clearly delighted that it was a home-grown British breed.

Jane concluded, "Never in my wildest dreams did I think that we would experience a week like we've had."

"Meeting the Prince, winning a ribbon – but it is thanks to everyone at home and everyone at the show who supported us that we achieved what we did."

Faith, who was too young to show at the Royal Welsh this year, is now looking forward to the Vale Show where she is keen to have her turn taking the sheep in the show ring.

There were many other local winners from the Vale of Glamorgan and surrounding areas, including Mr Tudor Harris, Bonvilston, with his Blue Faced Leicester Sheep; Mrs Elizabeth Matthews of Troes with her Poll Dorset Sheep; and Mr Michael King of Porthcawl, in the equestrian classes, with his Section C.

'POTENTIALLY SERIOUS ISSUES UNCOVERED'

Council building department under review after auditors are called in

MAJOR CHANGES are on the way in the Vale Council's building services – after an internal audit uncovered "potentially serious issues".

The news was revealed at Monday's meeting of the Vale Council cabinet (July 29) in a report by managing director Sian Davies.

Cabinet members were told that in March this year, concerns were raised with the Head of Accountancy and Resource Management.

These concerns included suggestions that some building services staff were claiming to be on jobs when they were not, were taking extended lunch breaks, and were using vans for non-work-related purposes.

Cabinet members were told that "a robust audit investigation" was carried out, and the results were detailed in the managing director's report.

The report said that, on initial investigation, it has been identified that further testing and evidence collection is required to prove or disprove the allegation.

tions raised. These are currently under investigation and will be the subject of separate audit reports.

However, the managing director's report says that an expensive electronic state-of-the-art system, designed to keep track of staff who were out of the office on jobs, is not being operated correctly.

The report says that the system initially went well, but concerns led to a report this February, and this prompted a much more "robust" audit.

The report says that the electronic mobile system appears to be a good system and has a proven track record of working.

Hardware and software has been bought with a view to rolling out the mobile system across the whole service, although this has not happened to date.

The report says: "It should be noted that the additional equipment procured is still sitting idle. In total, £768,000 has been spent on the complete system (eConSol and Opti-Time) and annual maintenance since 2008.

"This can only be justified if the efficiencies generated by its implementation

by PHILIP IRWIN

are greater than the cost."

The report goes on: "Based upon the testing undertaken, the auditors have found that the operatives are no longer using the Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) correctly (these are hand-held devices through which they receive their daily schedule of jobs to be undertaken).

"Operatives are stating they are 'on way' when clearly they are elsewhere and that they arrive 'on site', in some cases, several hours later."

The report continues: "The findings of this review have revealed that the operatives have a large proportion of idle/non verified time.

"The whole ethos of mobile working is based on the fact that operatives can start work from home and go straight to site, making the service more efficient.

"However, the auditors have found that many operatives tend to come to the Alps at the start and end of the working day, and this time is also charged to the client."

The report has this to say about

staffing levels: "These findings imply that there are too many operatives or not enough work. Building Services has taken on 11 agency workers since September 2012 to undertake WHQS (Welsh Housing Quality Standard) work.

"The need for this level of agency staff is, therefore, questionable, and management should be reviewing the work levels and skills of permanent staff."

Coun Phil Clarke, an independent councillor who represents Rhosneigr, told The GEM: "A number of local residents had raised concerns with me about working practices in this department.

"The report seems to show that these concerns have some foundation.

"It is important that public money and resources should be used as efficiently as possible, and I am encouraged to see the council taking prompt action."

These actions include the setting up of a cabinet working group to look at the issues raised by the report.

Also, the Director of Visible Services and Housing, and the Head of Housing

and Building Services have been told to put systems in place that will get the electronic monitoring system working properly.

This should, says the report, be with a view to rolling out the electronic mobile working system, as appropriate, to the entire Building Services workforce including WHQS and public buildings work.

The head of Housing and Building Services is being asked to put together a project plan to deal with all the issues raised in the report.

This plan will need to be approved by the managing director, the director of Visible Services and Housing, the Leader and the relevant cabinet member.

The head of Housing and Building Services has also been asked to arrange refresher training as soon as possible for all relevant staff on the correct use of the PDAs and the electronic monitoring system.

Also, Internal Audit will continue to investigate specific allegations and any other issues arising from the audit. Outcomes will be reported separately.



Barry Male Voice Choir performed at the service held in the Memorial Hall.

Barry Mayor honoured at Civic Sunday event



LEFT:
The Mayor of Barry, Coun Claire Curtis (centre) and husband Coun Rob Curtis, with Deputy Lord Lieutenant Colin Jones, the Vale of Glamorgan Mayor, Coun Margaret Wilkinson, and her consort, Jayne Norman.



PHOTOGRAPHS by JOHN O'BEIRNE VALE PRESS PICTURES
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THE pomp and ceremony of Civic Sunday in Barry, honouring the town's new mayor, Coun Claire Curtis, took place on Sunday, July 28.

Local photographer John O'Beirne was on hand to capture images of the day.

The service at the Memorial Hall was conducted by Father Ben Andrews, and Barry Male Voice choir performed with the soloist Jodie Bird.

@gem_news

Dinas anger over plans to demolish buildings on former St Cyres site

THE remaining buildings on the site of St Cyres School in Dinas Powys will be demolished before the summer is out, writes PHILIP IRWIN.

In making the decision, the cabinet of the Vale Council cited the costs of maintaining and securing the buildings from theft and vandalism.

Specialist contractors and consultants will move in to do ground condition and topographic surveys – surveys that will inform any subsequent decisions on the future of the site. However, some locals are angry, saying that recent consultation did not make clear that demolition was on the horizon.

Cabinet members at the meeting were told that a public consultation generated a total of 477 responses, including an "expression of interest in the former school buildings from a third party community group".

The report said that subsequent discussions with this group at a meeting with officers has confirmed that their proposals are not dependant upon using the existing buildings.

Members were told that the empty school buildings have become an "on-going security and maintenance liability" – and that demolition was the answer.

An "urgency procedure" has been requested to ensure that the demolition project can start during the school summer holidays to reduce the risks associated with children playing on the site or entering the build-

ing following a break-in before the building is re-secured.

The report said that buildings have been secured since the school left in July 2012 but have suffered repeated break-ins. The cost to board up the building and replace damaged boarding

is the intention to demolish the buildings."

Local councillors have not been formally involved with the cabinet working party or invited to comment or give evidence concerned with the development of the site."

He continued: "There is reference to a 'third party community group' in the report. Unfortunately the identity of this group is unclear.

"However, I would specifically ask if any definite offer has been made to any group to make use of any of the buildings and what was the response.

"Is there not an option to maintain a section of the buildings for community use? This should cut costs of rebuild in the cases of say, the Baptist Church and the Gym Club. I would urge that this matter be deferred for wider consultations."

In response, Coun Chris Elmore, the cabinet member for children's services, said: "The con-

sultation for potential uses for the site as a whole was wide ranging, I do not agree that there was inadequate consultation. The extensive consultation did not reveal a feasible use for the former school buildings.

"The condition of the buildings gives me grave cause for concern and to minimise the risk to the community the report recommended the demolition of the buildings as soon as possible.

Local councillors for Dinas Powys have been invited to inspect the buildings so they can see the condition for themselves.

"Officers are still having positive discussions with community groups and other organisations regarding a mixed development at the site."

"I can assure the local members that they will be consulted upon the options, as we have already done in the development of the new medical centre at the site," he added.

FoE MEETING

THE next meeting of Barry & Vale Friends of the Earth will be on August 6 in the Castle Hotel, Jewel Street, Barry, at 7.30pm.

The group has supported FoE's 'BEE Cause' campaign and are glad to see the Government take action to protect bees, which are so vital to life.

The group is also working with those who are organised to oppose proposed housing developments at Weycock Cross and Green Farm.

The FoE Group has worked with those opposed to 'Fracking' for Gas in the Vale and have joined the 'Frack-Free Wales' organisation, believing that this mad rush for gas, to burn off more carbon, will only increase global warming.

Keith Stockdale, Barry & Vale Friends of the Earth co-ordinator

GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE



In Business Update

Are you ready to invest?

MANY people may have cash saved in the bank, and whilst it is important to have a rainy-day or emergency fund, you may be missing opportunities to make the remainder of your money work harder for you – especially when rates of interest being paid on savings held in banks and building societies are so low.

When savings pay less than inflation, using these deposit accounts means that you will lose some of the real value of the money you put in.

So what is the alternative? A financial advisor will be able to help you to decide whether or not investing your money would be a better option.

Investing means using your money to buy assets that you think will increase in value over time – eg property or shares in a fund. If your financial goals are medium to longer term (five years+), then it is probably worth considering an investment.

The type of investments that are most suitable will depend on your goals, your risk profile and how long you are prepared to leave your money invested.

CBK's financial advisors can help you to set your goals and, by understanding your circumstances and needs, recommend a solution to help you achieve them.

The value of investments and income from them may go down.

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BESPOKE JEWELLERY

After establishing our successful jewellers, Brooklinde Jewellery, in Cardiff 13 years ago, we are pleased to announce the opening of our second shop, Bespoke Jewellery Workshop, off the High Street in Barry.

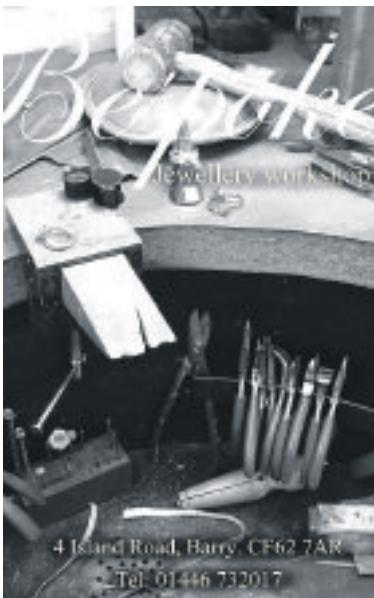
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Do you, or someone you know, suffer from hearing problems, or constant 'ringing in the ears'?

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Walk Ten for Marie Curie!

ON August 17, walkers from across south Wales will be taking part in the 3rd annual 'Walk Ten' event at Margam Country Park – to raise funds for local Marie Curie Cancer Care nurses.

This year, the event will be supported by the Cardiff Cougars – a cheering squad who have won numerous championship titles in the UK and the USA.

Walk Ten is a twilight 10km walk that starts at 7pm from the castle in Margam Park and, for

the first time, there will also be a shorter wheelchair/pram friendly route, for those who don't think they can manage the full route, and children under 16 still can come along completely free of charge with a paying adult.

At 10pm, there will be a firework display to mark the time when Marie Curie Cancer Care nurses begin their shifts caring for terminally ill patients in their own homes.

For more information, or to register, call 0845 052 4184 or visit www.mariecurie.org.uk/margampark.



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Out and About with The GEM

Tax advice

FREE tax advice will be available from 9.30am – 11.30am, at the Senior Health Shop, Holton Road, Barry on Monday July 29. No appointment needed. Contact 01446 732385 for further information.

Thrift shop

The thrift shop, St Athan, closed on Wednesday, July 31, and reopens on September 9 at 10am.

Cycle ride

MARIE CURIE Cancer Care is calling for volunteers to sign up for the charity's London to Paris Cycle Ride in July 2014.

For further information, visit the website: www.mariecurie.org.uk/london2014 or call 01604 442313.

Open gardens

SEVEN Barry gardens will be open to the public on Saturday (August 3).

The seven have differing styles: 47 Aneurin Road is an ever-changing small garden with mostly annual plants grown in over 600 containers; 11 Arno Road is a plant lover's garden, filled with climbers, shrubs, perennials, alpines and ferns planted for year-round interest.

Belvedere Crescent Community Garden is a newly-created garden developed by and for the local community.

Cae Gwyn, 24 Port Road, is a large, secret garden, with many attractive features including a large pond, gravel garden, pergola and sweeping lawns; 1 North

Walk has a formal front garden with pergola festooned with roses, clematis and wisteria and a back garden with a courtyard feature, cottage garden planting and a succulent house.

At 28 Port Road is a mini smallholding with creative, eccentric touches, lush, unmanicured, jungly feel with meandering paths; 76 Port Road is a newly-developing garden, with stunning views over the Vale, a wonderful old greenhouse and newly-planted borders with more to come.

Gardens open from 1pm – 5.30pm; £5 admission.

Sunday August 4: Bryn-y-Dafad, Welsh St Donats, Cowbridge, CF11 7ST.

A small courtyard garden with raised bed, informally planted using pastel shades of annuals, perennials and small shrubs.

The terraced rear garden has colourful raised beds and borders, mature trees and shrubs. Lily pond with water feature. Recently constructed and planted pergola of roses leads to a bridge crossing the natural stream.

New bog garden and small bank of rhododendrons and azaleas.

Open: 11.30am – 5.30pm; admission £4

Pier music

On Saturday August 3 and 10, the Vale of Glamorgan Brass Band will be playing at Penarth Pier from 2pm till 4pm.

Newton fayre

A SUMMER sale at Newton Institute, Porthcawl, on Saturday August 3 starts at 2pm;

admission 50p, includes tea/coffee/biscuits. Raffle, cake stall, tombola, garden stall, bric-a-brac, toys, books and lots more.

Barry Island toy and train sale

FOLLOWING the success of the inaugural event last year, the Toy and Train traders are returning to Barry Island on Sunday, August 4, from 10.30am to 3pm.

The unusual venue will be the actual platform on the station (by kind permission of the Barry Tourist Railway) and in case of the weather not being perfect, this platform has a full-length canopy which protects the event and renders it virtually undercover.

A spokesman said: "Some of the top model train dealers have booked for this show but there is also a good number of traders with die-cast and other toys attending."

For more information, go to www.chrisdyerfairs.co.uk.

Free courses

YELLOW Wales in Maesteg is offering young people aged 16 – 25 the opportunity to gain an Agored Cymru (OCN) qualification on a free personal development programme, PX2 – as part of the Big Lottery-funded Siaradwn Ni – Let's Talk programme.

Courses are held over three days from August 6 – 8 and August 13 – 15.

For further information, visit www.siaradwnni.org.uk or call 01656 810400.

Latest Ty Hafan lottery draw

THE following are 747285; winning numbers in 545093; 620615; 767883; 630653; 688654; 879589; draw number D785. ● £2,000: 350139. 549643; 550387; 181266; 578768; now stands at £3,000, 997354; 480885; was not won this week. 807400; 154000; ● £10: 645244; 344347; 279768; 676308; 519207; 488093; 165672; 726698; 740161; 833228; 104772; 538559; 604916; 888753; 787326; 351165; 607626; 606481; 825118; 244933; 834139; 140801; 554670; 668678; 691068; 587442; 936067. ● £5: 160196; 307064; 780464; 235984; 227610; 629364. 152106; 436967; 175319; 556135; 614415; 507847; 445690; 545297; 410981; 152140; 367652; 674173; 445690; 603750; 116373; 2053 2300. The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above. For lottery information please telephone 029 2063 6464.

362990;

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292924;

304228;

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292836;

559272;

280683;

130345;

629161;

640179;

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640179;

351084;

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Out and About with The GEM

The Wolverine regains his bite in superb blockbuster movie

HAVING cut with his adamantium claws through three *X-Men* films, the popularity of the character of *Wolverine*, played by Hugh Jackman, was beginning for a stand-alone film.

However, 2009's *X-Men Origins: Wolverine* was something of a damp squib of a film, hardly doing the character justice, a wrong James Mangold's *The Wolverine* aims to right.

Set after events of *X-Men: The Last Stand*, Wolverine travels to Japan, where he meets up with an old acquaintance who has interests in his particular mutant abilities. When he finds himself losing his abilities to regenerate, it forces him to look inside himself and be

aware of his own mortality. Meanwhile, a family feud rages around him, threatening to engulf those he has become close to...

The summer blockbuster season so far has consisted of who can seemingly demolish as much as cityscape as possible within their allotted time frame (the winner? *Pacific Rim*, though *Man Of Steel* runs it close); this overload of destruction has certainly dulled the senses, so it's pleasing to report that *The Wolverine* features no smashing up of buildings or levelling of towns.

In fact, in blockbuster terms it's low-key, the action sequences fleeting but thrillingly staged, the focus instead on a character whose depths haven't been sufficiently investigated as yet and on a story that

engages wholly – in short, *The Wolverine* may just be the best superhero movie released this year.

Having had the senses dulled by the carnage offered by others of its ilk, *The Wolverine* instead takes Frank Miller's celebrated comic-book series of Wolverine in the land of the rising sun and fashions a stylish film that, for the first time, really focuses on the character, his strengths and what happens to a man who has the ability to live forever.

Mortality is a key theme here, how Wolverine sees those he loves slip away while he goes on living, and it's this grounding in a more realistic sensibility that really sets the film apart from its brethren, the motivations of the characters pushed by human concern rather than the



by GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

generic and oft-used world domination.

James Mangold takes the Japanese setting and expands on it through his direction, the film visually bearing the influence of Japanese cinema.

It gives the film a look that differentiates itself from other blockbusters, and the set-

pieces, which are used intermittently, pack far more of a punch, a stand-out being a bullet train-set battle that is cleverly staged.

Hugh Jackman's sixth outing as the character also sees him deliver his best performance to date as Wolverine, the script giving him something to really get his teeth stuck into, and the actor responds well, showing more range than he has previously been allowed to do in other *X* adventures.

Alongside him is a largely unknown cast, but all deliver strong turns, particularly Tao Okamoto as Mariko and Rila Fukushima as Yukio.

The only real missteps made here are in having a villain who lacks any real punch or menace (though to be fair the story hinges on Wolverine himself rather than a big bad) and a climactic showdown that eschews

Mangold's subtle direction for something a little more genre-fitting, but these minor blips aside you can't help but be impressed by *The Wolverine*.

It is the film that fans of the character have been waiting for (though the 12A violence may not be to everyone's tastes), this is one film that really delivers.

VERDICT –

Wonderfully directed, superbly acted, and delivering all you would want, *The Wolverine* is an incredibly engaging piece of work that ticks all the boxes. James Mangold's direction brims with brawn and beauty, while Hugh Jackman has never been better in title role – a great success. *Highly recommended.*

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *X2* (2003), *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* (2000).

The GEM has joined forces with the Dog's Trust to find caring new owners for animals at its Bridgend Rehoming Centre (Telephone 01656 725219).

Sian needs nurturing to develop her potential!

SIAN is a six-year-old Whippet-cross who has had a difficult start in life, but she is still a super little girl.

She has received little training and socialisation before coming to the rehoming centre, so will need someone who is happy to show her the ropes.

She will develop into a confident and happy girl, with positive, reward-based training, which will be lots of fun for both Sian and her new owner.

Sian would prefer older children, who understand that she is a little nervous. She is great with other dogs, and would enjoy living with one. A little gem just waiting to be discovered!

For more information about Sian, call us on 01656 725219 or pop into Dogs Trust Bridgend. We are open 12-4 every day, except Mondays, and open late on a Wednesday until 7.30pm. **LF**



Church open

THE church of Merthyr Dyfan, Barry will be open from 2pm-4pm on Wednesdays throughout August.

Church

flower festival

ST CADOC'S Church, Pendoylan, is holding a festival of flowers over three days (August 2-4).

The theme will be 'A church's Year'. Opening times are 11am-5pm each day. Admission is £7 which includes tea/coffee and cream.

Valeways

walks

Sunday, August 4, 2.30pm – 'Western Vale Wander'.

Meet outside Wick post office.

On Wednesday, August 7 at 10.30am, Coffee Shop Strollers meet at Barry Hub, Cold Knap, outside Bridge Cafe.

WHAT'S ON / in brief

TOP help

TAX Help for Older People (TOP) will hold an income tax surgery to offer free professional advice to older people on a restricted income, at Roz Couzens' Chiropody Surgery, Unit 4,

Commercial House, Commercial Street, Llantrisant Major CF61 1RB on August 5 from 10am – midday.

No appointment is necessary.

To access the TOP's helpline telephone 0845 601 3321, or 01308 488066. Home visits can also be arranged via this helpline for people unable to attend the surgery.

Verse & Vine'

A 'VERSE & VINE' night will be held during the 2013 'Porthcawl Sea Festival', at 8pm on August 6, in the 'Green

Room' above SUSSED at 5, James Street CF36 3BG – live poetry and music with a marine flavour.

Kristian Evans, of Kenfig will be the featured poet, with a host of other performers at the 'Open Mike'.

The event is supported by Literature Wales. Entry is £3.

Contact SUSSED on 01656 783962, or email susses@gmail.com.

Camera Club's display
BARRY Camera Club is keenly looking forward to its

annual photographic exhibition, which this year will be held at the Vale of Glamorgan's Art Central, which is accessed from the library, from August 6 – 31.

It will be open from Tuesday-Saturday from 10am – 4pm.

The exhibition will display its members' best work, with images captured on location, or merely as a study of something compelling which caught the photographer's eye.

The late, esteemed David Hunt, a member of Barry Camera Club for more than 50 years, will be featured this year. Admission is free.

Choir returns after 20 years

THIS autumn, the London Welsh Male Voice Choir (LMVC) comes to Barry for its first visit in over 20 years.

On Saturday, October 5 at the Memo Arts Centre, the choir, under the baton of Swansea based conductor and composer Edward-Rhys Harry, will perform a mix of traditional hymns and arias, show tunes and pop classics.

The choir has strong local connections and the compere will be Barry boy Laurie Adams, a solicitor in London who attended

Barry Boys Comprehensive in the 1980s.

Appearing as soloist with LMVC will be Ffion Perrett a young soprano from Cardiff, currently studying at the Royal Northern School of Music.

Proceeds from the concert will go to the local branch of the RNLI, who are delighted to have been chosen as the charity to benefit from the concert.

Tickets, priced £15, £12 and £10 for 10, will be on sale at the Memorial Hall Box Office, 01446 738622 or online at www.memorialhalltheatre.co.uk

Peter Cronin

Exhibition at the Heritage Coast Centre, Southerndown

Sat 10th to 17th August
Open 10am to 5pm



New Oil and Watercolour paintings.
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Cresta Coaches

Day Trips for 2013

Date	Day	Destination	Adult Fare	OAP/Child
27/07/2013	Saturday	Weston Super Mare	£12.00	£11.00
03/08/2013	Saturday	Windsor	£14.00	£13.00
06/08/2013	Tuesday	Moreton in the Marsh 'Cotswolds'	£11.00	£10.00
11/08/2013	Sunday	Oakwood Park or Folly Farm (Coach Only)	£9.50	£8.50
13/08/2013	Tuesday	West Midlands Safari (Coach Only)	£14.50	£13.50
17/08/2013	Saturday	Wells & Burnham on Sea	£11.50	£10.95
25/08/2013	Sunday	Drayton Manor (Coach Only)	£15.00	£13.00
31/08/2013	Saturday	Tenby & Saundersfoot	£10.95	£10.00
11/09/2013	Wednesday	Carmarthen Market & Tenby	£ 9.50	£ 9.00
21/09/2013	Saturday	Bicester, Oxfordshire	£14.00	£13.00
12/10/2013	Saturday	Tewksbury & Ross on Wye 'Labels'	£11.50	£10.50
26/10/2013	Saturday	Stratford Upon Avon (Early Xmas Shopper)	£12.95	£11.95
23/11/2013	Saturday	Cheltenham Christmas Shopper	£11.50	£11.00
30/11/2013	Saturday	Worcester Victorian Christmas Fayre	£13.75	£13.00
TBA	Await Date	Caerphilly Medieval Xmas Fayre	TBA	TBA
08/12/2013	Sunday	Bath Christmas Market	£13.75	£12.75
22/12/2013	Sunday	London Xmas Shopping & Sights	£20.00	£19.00

Minimum passenger numbers are required, therefore early reservation is essential.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON OUR DAY TRIPS
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LEFT TO RIGHT: Stuart Egan, Lis Burnett, Pam Drake, Bronwen Brooks, Chris Elmore, Claire Curtis, Rob Curtis, Gwyn John.

Councillors' 'United' front for Barry Town

MAYOR of Barry, Coun Claire Curtis, was joined by the Vale Council cabinet and Barry Town councillors to show their support for Barry Town United at Jenner Park on Saturday, July 27.

Despite losing by 2-3, Barry Town United showed the young squad of Cardiff City players that they are more than a 'parks' football team and deserve their place in the Welsh League.

Coun Claire Curtis said: "The

momentum to the game had been building up on the social media sites and we wanted to ensure that there was no doubt that the Councillors of both the Vale Council and Barry town council were fully behind the supporters club and the their fight for justice for Barry Town United.

Unfortunately, the weeks of sunshine didn't hold out for the game, but the people of Barry still turned up to show their support. It is a shame that the supporters club have had to resort to legal action, but we will continue to support the team and supporters any

way we can."

MAYOR DROPS IN AT NELLS POINT



LEFT TO RIGHT: Alan Morgan, fundraising officer; Coun Margaret Wilkinson; Terry Ewington (station manager); consort Jayne Norman; Clive Wilton (the deputy manager).

LAST week, Coun Margaret Wilkinson, Mayor of the Vale, and consort Jayne Norman, made her first official visit to the National Coastwatch Station, Nells Point, Barry Island.

She has a long-standing connection with NCI, Nells Point since it opened in 2007.

Her late husband, Bob Wilkinson, was a founder member of the crew at Nells Point and former chairman of the management committee at the station.

Mr Wilkinson, who died 2010, had served as Mayor of the Vale on two occasions having been as a councillor in Barry for over 20 years.

Commenting on her late husband's involvement at NCI, Nells Point, Coun Wilkinson stated that Bob had been

devastated when he was forced to stand down as a volunteer for health reasons and had missed being involved.

During her visit, she was escorted around the exhibition room and lookout and was impressed with how the station had developed.

The National Coastwatch Station, Nells Point, has been nominated as one of the Mayor's three charities for her year in office.

The manager, Terry Ewington, said: "We are grateful to Coun Wilkinson for her nomination of NCI, Nells Point as one of her three charities during her year in office.

The Mayor, along with her late husband Bob, have not only supported our organisation but have been involved with it from the outset."

Did you know you can read your GEM online?
barry-today.co.uk

BARRY MAN LANDS HIS FOURTH WORLD TITLE



On July 14, head instructor of JSTKD and Inner spirit Joe Schembri finally achieved his fourth world title at the 7th Open World Championships.

Recently finishing Ironman Italy for charity, he knew he had the fitness to compete at the national level.

In 2005 he had lost his title to Scotland, placing third, but in 2007 moved up in weight class and placed second.

In 2010, Joe fell short in the semi finals again, placing third. This year, he competed above his weight in point stop rules

to warm up for the Sunday event, placing third after four fights.

Fighting through the rounds on Sunday, against countries such as Ireland, Russia, Poland, Germany, Joe took the final match to become world champion again!

He currently teaches classes throughout the Vale in Barry, Dinas Powys, Llantwit, Rhoose and St Athan; for more information, contact 07711234500.

CJS

Chris and Mike pair up for victory!

FORMER Wales Commonwealth Games bowler Chris Blake (Barry Athletic) and Mike Ackland (Dinas Powys) were comfortable winners of the Ron Thomas Open Pairs Final at Barry Island on Sunday.

Blake and Ackland were firm favourites to lift the trophy and displayed excellent form throughout the week.

In the final they defeated Dinas Powys pair, Clive Todd

and Nigel Leigh. In the semi-final Blake and Ackland proved too strong for Matthew Woodcock and Emma Moorhouse, racing to a 22-4 victory.

Todd and Leigh clinched their final spot with a thrilling 14-13 success against David Bowles and Andrew Harvey, both of Dinas Powys.

A highlight of the week was the form of Barry Athletic octogenarians D.K. Williams and Eric Booker. With a combined age of 162 years, they bowled with confidence and

enthusiasm and excelled in reaching the quarter final stage before giving way to the younger generation!

The annual pairs is now firmly established on the bowling calendar, this year's event attracting almost 90 bowlers from south Wales.

Played in excellent conditions for most of the week - with the exception of showers on Sunday's final day, visiting bowlers praised the Athletic's superb green, arguably one of the best in Wales.

The tournament was excell-

ently organised by Athletic Bowls club secretary Clive Cottrell, ably supported by Mike Vaughan and was sponsored by B.T.I.Sunglasses (Jeff Thomas) and Watkins & Gunn Solicitors, Pontypool (Clive Thomas).

Jeff and Clive are the sons of the late Ron Thomas, who played his part in establishing Barry Athletic Bowls Club as a strong force in the 1960s-70s.

RP

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (UN-NAMED LANE (PART) WELSH ST DONATS) (ROAD CLOSURE) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2013

On 1st August 2013 the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), made an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below:

The Order will be known as "The Vale of Glamorgan Council (Un-named Lane (Part) Welsh St Donats) (Road Closure) (Temporary) Order" 2013.

SCHEDULE 1

No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location The un-named lane that extends in a generally north easterly direction from St Donats Church at grid 302756 176205 to the junction at grid 302900 176293, adjacent to a property known as Woodlands. A distance of approximately 200m.

Reason To allow essential water main renewal works to take place.

Duration From 9.00am on Monday 5th August 2013 until 4.00pm on Friday 23rd August 2013.

Alt. Route Diversions for southwest bound traffic during the above closure will be signed from the north eastern point of the closure in a generally southerly direction along Heol Mynydd to the junction at grid 302796 176048 adjacent to a property known as Forge Cottage, then proceeding in a northerly direction to the south western point of the closure, and visa-versa.

NB Access for residents of the lane will be maintained at all times from one end of the lane or the other, and access for emergency vehicles will also be maintained.

Pedestrian Access will be maintained at all times

Dated this 1st day of August 2013.

M. E. Punter,
Director of Visible Services & Housing,
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe, CF5 6AA.

CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG 2013 GORCHYMYN (CAU FFORDD) (DROS DRO) (LÔN DDIENW (RHAN YN UNIG), LLANDDUNWYD)

Ar 1 Awst 2013, , bu Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan Adran 14(1) Ddedf Rheoli Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 (ddiwygiadig), yn gweud Gorchymyn i'r diben cyffredinol a ddisgrifir yn yr Atodleni isod:

Adwaenir y Gorchymyn fel "Gorchymyn (Cau Ffordd) (Dros Dro) (Lôn Ddiennw (Rhan yn unig) Llanddunwyd) Cyngor Bro Morgannwg" 2013.

ATOLDEN 1

Ni fydd neb yn gyrru nac yn caniatâu i neb arall yrru modur yn y lleoliad a nodwyd yn Atolden 2 isod.

ATOLDEN 2

Lleoliad Y lôn ddiennw sy'n ymestyn yn gyffredinol i gyfeiriad y gogledd ddwyrain o Eglwys Sain Dunwyd wrth grid 302756 176205 i'r gyffordd wrth grid 302900 176293, wrth ymwl eiddo a adwaenir fel 'Woodlands' - sef pellter o ryw 200m.

Rheswm Gwneud gwaith hanfodol ar y brif bibell dd_r.

Cyfnod O 9.00am ar ddydd Llun 5 Awst 2013 hyd 4.00pm ar ddydd Gwener 23 Awst 2013.

Lwybr arall Tra bod y ffordd ar gau, bydd traffig sy'n symud i'r de orllewin yn cael ei ddargyfeirio, drwy gymorth arwyddion ffyrdd i gyfeiriad cyffredinol y de ar hyd ynt benodol. Bydd yr hyd hon yr rhedeg o ben gogledd -ddwyreiniol yr ardal gae_dig ar hyd Heol Mynydd i'r gyffordd wrth grid 302796 176048 wrth ymwl 'Forge Cottage', ac ymlaen tua'r gogledd i ben de-orllewinol yr ardal gae_dig. Bydd traffig o'r cyfeiriad arall yn dilyn yr un hyd yn union ond o chwif.

D.S. Caiff trigolion fynediad i'r lôn ar hyd yr amser o'r naill ben neu'r llall ac felhyd hefyd gerbydau'r gwasanaethau brys..

Caiff cerddwyr hefyd fynediad i'r lôn drwy gydol yr amser.

Dyddiedig 1 Awst 2013.

M. E. Punter,
Dyddledig Gwasanaethau Gweladwy a Thai,
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwennfô. CF5 6AA.



Cardiff City XI just pip Barry Town United in friendly game



A bumper crowd at Jenner Park on Saturday saw Gavin Chesterfield's Barry Town United contest an exciting friendly against a strong side from neighbours Cardiff City.

Cardiff's starting line-up included several players who had featured in their 2012 League Cup final against Liverpool, including goalscorer Joe Mason, international marksman Rudy Gestede and formidable Slovakan midfielde Filip Kiss.

They were joined by Slovenian international Etien Velikonja, a million-pound forward with UEFA Champions League pedigree, and French trialist Raphael Calvet, formerly of Auxerre, amongst others.

With the calibre of player on show, some had predicted a difficult afternoon for the home side on the hallowed Jenner Park turf. However, Gavin Chesterfield's team equipped themselves well in the opening third, restricting Cardiff's chances and carving out routes forward at the opposite end, while showcasing some good football in the middle of the field.

Former Wycombe Wanderers playmaker Kadeem Harris impressed for Cardiff, playing a key role in several moves.

Harris and his teammates were kept at bay for the first 30 minutes by the Barry defence, marshalled by veteran Damon Searle, himself a former Cardiff favourite.

It was, however, Harris who would open the scoring on the half-hour, carrying the ball forward and unleashing a spectacular curling effort from outside the box into the bottom right-hand corner of the Barry net, past goalkeeper Brendan Cropley. It was the kind of quality that is exceptionally hard



to defend against.

Nevertheless, the fighting spirit of the Barry players, which carried them all the way to a Welsh Cup semi-final last season, was present again in abundance, and the home side continued to play football, in front of an enthused crowd of some 1,650.

Remarkably, the Bluebirds' lead would last less than five minutes – Barry turning one of several excellent periods of play into an all-important equaliser.

A well-delivered Barry free-kick from 40-yards out asked questions of the Cardiff defence and saw midfielder Michael Hartley break away from his marker. Hartley then cut inside as the ball descended and finished the set piece perfectly with a smart left-footed finish from six yards out.

After the restart, Barry continued to work hard and play well, as Cardiff began to fight back; Mason rattling the crossbar with one strong effort that ricocheted off substitute Barry goalkeeper Dan Bradley's line.

Bradley, entering his eighth season at Jenner Park, did well to stop an inquisitive Cardiff free-kick later on, but could do little to prevent Cardiff's equaliser, which came after a period of first-rate build-up play.

After patiently constructing their attack on the Barry goal, Harris broke through, beating

two defenders, only for Bradley to stop his powerful shot with an instinctive block at the near post.

Unfortunately for Barry, the ball fell kindly for Cardiff and was headed back across goal to the awaiting Velikonja, who tapped home from close range to level the scores.

Things would get more difficult for the Town when the Bluebirds introduced 8 substitutes at once; tiring Barry legs continuing to work hard to keep up with the pace of the professionals.

Both sides though had their opportunities to win the match; Bradley stopping a Cardiff free-kick and Nagi almost finding a way through at the opposite end.

However, the match

appeared poised to end in a draw, before Cardiff grabbed a third in the 82nd minute to settle things in their favour.

Firing a long ball down the field, the Bluebirds orchestrated a cross from the right flank that met the head of substitute forward Rhys Healey at the back post. The promising Healey then did enough to put the ball into the Barry net, under pressure from a defender.

In the final minutes,



Frown, D. Searle, L. Cosslett, L. Baldock, T. Greening, J. Saddler (captain), J. Cotterill, R. Jenkins, M. Hartley, T.J. Nagi. Subs used: D. Bradley (GK), R. Evans, D. Howarth, B. Briers, P. Morgan, T. Case.

Cardiff City XI: L.

Matthews (GK), K.

Owen, R. Calvert, B.

Williams, D. John, F.

Kiss, T. Wharton, K.

Harris, J. Mason, R.

Gestede, E. Velikonja.

Subs used: J. Bell (GK, trialist), A. Baker, B.

Wickham, G. Morais

(trialist), M. Southam, T.

Roche, N. Thomas (trialist), J. Monterio (trialist), R. Healey, A. Noor.



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Family Notices

BEATRICE HARRIS

Beatrice's family would like to thank all who attended her funeral service on 5th July and for the many words, cards and flowers of comfort. The family is also grateful to the doctors and staff of Eryl Surgery, local district nurses and also for the care and attention given by 5 Star Agency.

ANNA BIRKETT

Anna (90) died peacefully in her sleep on Saturday 27th July, following a recent stroke, in familiar surroundings at Milson House, St Athan, where she had been a resident for the last three years.

DAVIES
Glenys

Alan, Peter, Elaine and family would like to thank their many friends and relatives for their kind messages of sympathy and support and for attending the Funeral Service.

Thanks, too, to the Clergy at St Illtyd's Church for the wonderful uplifting service, to Thomas Brothers Funeral Directors, to all staff at Holme Tower, Penarth for their care and compassion, to Dr J Crimmins and staff at Eryl Surgery for their support and to the staff at West House Hotel for providing wonderful catering on the day.

EDWARDS
Harry O.

Peacefully on 23rd July at University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff, Henry Llewellyn 'Harry O', aged 85 years of Claude Road, Barry. A loved father of Linda, Mark, Delyth, Gaynor and the late Denzil, father-in-law of Rob, Sally, Jayne and Carol. Cherished grandfather and great grandfather. 'Harry O' will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams and Son Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry until the funeral on Tuesday, 6th August. Funeral service in the chapel at 11am, afterwards cremation at the Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry at 12 noon. Family flowers only. If desired donations may be handed to the Funeral Director after the funeral, for Asthma Society.

RUSSELL
Leon Anthony

Suddenly on July 18, at his home in Barry, Leon, beloved son of Mike and Norma, loving father of Dayna, dearly loved brother of Natasha, Alaina and Ashley, a much loved uncle.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Tuesday, August 6, service and cremation 1.30pm at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry. Flowers may be sent to the Funeral Home.

MAY
Don

Phillip would like to thank all who attended his father's funeral, as well as those who sent cards and messages of sympathy.

Special thanks to Reverend David Boulton for his moving service and to his Mum and Keira for all their support.

Thanks to the Funeral Directors, W. James and Sons, the doctors of Chapel Surgery, St Athan and to the staff of Ward 4 at Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend for their compassion and care.

Finally, thanks to Leanne and the team at St Athan Golf Club for the excellent catering.

HOPPER
Lennie

Died peacefully on Tuesday 23rd July in hospital.

Funeral celebration, St Bridget's Church, St Brides Major on Tuesday 6th August at 12.45pm and afterwards at Bridgend Crematorium at 2.15pm.

Family flowers only please. If you wish, donations to The Weston Oncology and Haematology Day Unit Fund, Weston General Hospital, BS23 4TQ or The Dogs' Trust.

LEWIS
Doug

Verona, Melanie, Sara & James would like to express heartfelt thanks for the overwhelming messages of sympathy following the sad loss of Doug.

A special thank you to Dr. Anna Foreman and the district nurses for all their kindness and support shown during Doug's short illness and to William James & Sons, Funeral Directors for the compassion and professionalism shown at this difficult time.

FLOYD
(Cheeseman) Christine

Peacefully on 21st July 2013 after a very short illness in Calais Hospital, France.

Christine of Voss Park Drive, Llanwit Major aged 74, much loved wife of John and devoted mother of Paul, Janis and Claire, adored grandmother and great grandmother.

Will be so sadly missed.

Funeral service on Thursday 8th August 2013 at 11.00am at Coychurch Crematorium.

Donations in lieu of flowers to Ty Hafan, c/o Thomas Brothers, Greengate, Ewenny Road, St. Brides Major CF32 0SB.

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gust that the re-
development of
the pleasure park at
Barry Island may
never happen - is it
the case that the
Vale does not want
tourism at Barry
Island or around
the area?

cinema, and letting planners pass a monstrosity of a building in its place - with no parking areas for residents or friends and family. Do planners think these residents don't have any rights for transport?

The fairground should be for tourism only - with a new full-sized swimming pool for competition, bowling alley, and a cinema, along with other sports facilities that the people of Barry wish to include in this 'Jewel of Barry'.

Barry Island has wanted another road access for I don't know how many years, and they are still talking about it!

The Vale is only interested in flats, and developing housing in areas which are overpopulated and are going to make roads more congested than they are at present.

Mrs Jean Pycroft,
Barry.WOMEN AT
THE FRONT
FOR WARTIME
WEEKENDBECAUSE of
wartime rationing,
'Make do and
mend' became a
way of life for
Barrians during the
Second World War,
and this year's
Wartime Weekend
sees the return of
wartime austerity
expert 'May', who
will once again be
showing visitors
how we made the
best of things during
those dark
wartime years.By the second year of
the war the materials
used for clothing had
become scarce, so
rationing of these was
also introduced.This had the effect of
changing the fashion of
the period, as people
couldn't simply buy a
new item of clothing,
unless they had enough
stamps on their ration
card. A new winter coat
for example, would use a
whole year's clothing
ration.People repaired their
clothes; often unpicking
a woollen jumper and
using the wool to knit a
new one. Stripes became
fashionable, as the wool
from two or three garments
could be used to make
one new item.As part of this year's
Barry Wartime Weekend,
we will have a 'Wartime
Housewife' demonstrating
how people made do
and repaired their clothes.Despite the austerity
caused by wartime
rationing, women of the
era were very fashion
conscious; perhaps dueto the high numbers of
single American soldiers
that had been stationed
around Britain.During the Barry
Wartime Weekend period,
models will be parading
in the fashion of the
1940s. Taking place at
the Barry Tourist
Railway Station, the
Barry Wartime Weekend
will also highlight the
more warlike role played
by women during the
Second World War.Not all women stayed
at home. Some brave
young women who spoke
French, were trained as
agents, and parachuted
into occupied France to
help freedom fighters
there.Barry War treasurer,
Kerry Cope, will be
demonstrating the
unarmed combat skills
used by these agents.With a vintage steam
train, life-sized Spitfire
aircraft and the events
and period music that
will be taking place
throughout the event,
there will be something
for all the family at the
Barry Wartime Weekend.Barry War group
hope to make the event a
fun way for people to
learn about their wartime
heritage, which is being
studied in many local
schools in the new term.
What's more, thanks to
our sponsors, this is a
free community event to
mark the end of the summer.The Barry Wartime
Weekend will take place
the weekend after August
bank holiday, on August
31/September 1. For
more information, see the
website at www.wartime-
weekend.co.uk or call
Ade Pitman 07930
874161.

The Vale Reds hold presentation evening



THE Vale Reds Disability Football Club held its annual end of year awards at the Coffee Cove and Wine Bar at Barry Island on Sunday, July 7.

The Vale Reds have had a good year winning different tournaments throughout the season. They have achieved a high standard this year in training which has now started to pay off by winning events in Skewen, west Wales and at a Special Olympic event in Cardiff.

The club has done very well this season in the local tournaments they attended and they are hoping to be able to play in the next level next season.

The awards started with a welcome from Pat Latham, the club chairperson, and awards were handed out to players in both age groups, while some of the club sponsors for last season were on hand to award some of the trophies.

Most improved player was awarded to James Clark, which was presented by Preet Mooneeram of Odyssey Legal Services, player of the year went to Anthony Bratcher and was presented by Vin Mooneeram of Mooneeram Solicitors.

The young coaches at the club awarded their player of the year trophy to Nick Latham and the trophy was presented by the coaches themselves, Kristian, Molly and David. The next award went to a younger player that has shown so much commitment over the last year and that was Jack Milsom.

The club's sports person of the year went to Dan Reynolds, who has proved to be a player who will do anything for the club where he can help; this award was presented by the club's coaches.

The evening carried on with competitions, games and bingo. The club would like to say a big thank you to our sponsors for the 2012/13 season, Mooneeram Solicitors, Odyssey Legal Services, Lyndsay Ellis of The Vale



Funeral Services and nPower.

We also need to send our thanks to Peter and Rhi of the Coffee Cove and Wine bar for putting on the food and allowing us to hold it there, and to all the businesses who donated items for the raffle.

The last thank you goes to the club's committee who have worked so hard for the last year with the club to bring in the much needed sponsorship for kit and equipment.

The club is always on the look out for new players from eight years to adult with disabilities; if you are interested telephone Neil on 07827 334818 or leave a message at www.valereds-disabilityfc.btck.co.uk, training is on a Wednesday night throughout the year.



Kyle is Welsh boys' golfing champion!

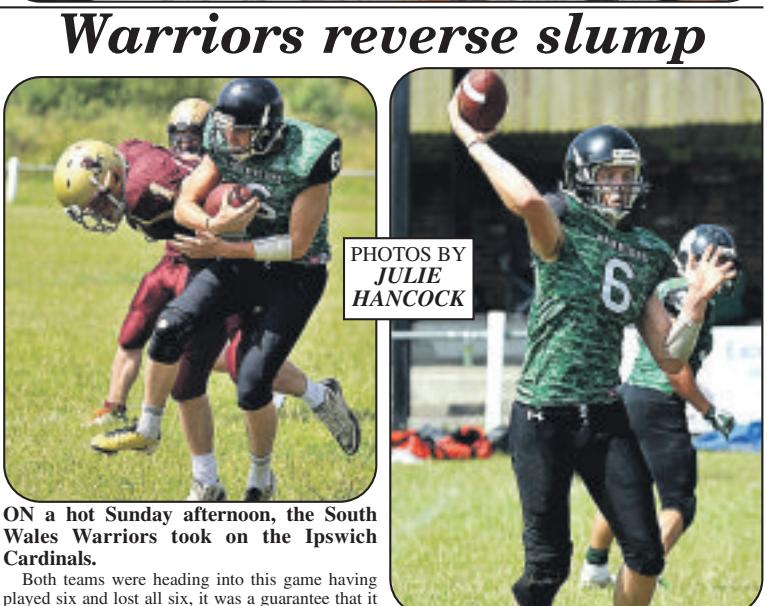


COTTRELL PARK member Kyle Harman, has won the 2013 Welsh Boys' Championship at Glamorganshire Golf Club, July 23-25.

In a field of 68, Kyle was the leading qualifier with a nine-under-par score for the two rounds of stroke play. His first round of 62 set a new course record at Glamorganshire.

In the match play stage, he defeated Lewis Sanger (Celtic Manor), Laurence Vargas (St Pierre) and Thomas Davies (Penrhos) to reach the final. There, he faced the number three qualifier, Joshua Davies from Celtic Manor, and won by one hole in a thrilling match.

GO-S



ON a hot Sunday afternoon, the South Wales Warriors took on the Ipswich Cardinals.

Both teams were heading into this game having played six and lost all six, it was a guarantee that it would be a hard game with both teams looking for their first win of the season and the game ended with the score South Wales Warriors 12, Ipswich Cardinals 7.

Their next game is on August 3 away to London Blitz, with their final home game on August 10 when they welcome the Berkshire Renegades.



Team looking for players

THE Vale Ladies & Girls Football Club is on the lookout for new players, aged seven to 15, to join the club for the 2013/14 season.

The club, which launched just over a year ago, currently has more than 100 girls playing football each week and is based at the Colcot Sports Centre in Barry.

The club offers free weekly training sessions during the summer in a fun, friendly environment with fully qualified

coaches, and players of all abilities are welcome to come and have a go.

Any girls currently playing in local mixed football can also join, as the club plays in a separate league, with match days on Sundays from September.

For more information contact 07832 273688, email: info@valegirlsfc.co.uk; or go to the website: www.valegirlsfc.co.uk

LW

Open week at Cottrell Park

COTTRELL Park Angela Padfield.

Golf Resort's open week extravaganza tee'd off with Captains Day on Saturday, July 6, on the Mackintosh course.

This year's captains, Neil Evans and Tessa Matthews, enjoyed their day with 124 entrants. First place for the men was Adam Cooke with 47 points and second place Ian Macpherson with 44 points.

The longest drive for men was taken by Adam Keenor and the nearest the pin by Gareth Gambling.

First place for ladies was Brenda Margetts with 43 points, and second place Angela Padfield with 39 points.

The longest drive was won by Kay Bradbury and nearest the pin by

entrants! This event is now in its 15th year and continues to increase in popularity, attracting visitors from as far as Bristol and the Midlands to play on two Championship-main-tained courses.

On Sunday, July 7, the Junior Open took place on the Mackintosh course with 55 entrants from various local golf clubs.

The boys' best gross and open champion was Oliver Brown from the Vale Resort with a score of 76.

The girls' best medal and open champion was Mollie Lewis from the Vale Resort with a score of 67. Erin Allinson from Cottrell Park Golf Resort won the girls' best stableford with 37 points and Ben Morgan from Cottrell Park Golf Resort won the boys' five-hole competition with 27 points.

The Seniors Open day attracted an amazing 223

entrants! This event is

now in its 15th year and continues to increase in popularity, attracting visitors from as far as Bristol and the Midlands to play on two Championship-main-tained courses.

After the 18-hole individual stableford qualifying competition, Aneurin Jones from Cottrell Park Golf Resort was successful in the 55 - 67 year-old category with a score of 40 points on the Mackintosh course.

The boys' best gross and open champion was Oliver Brown from the Vale Resort with a score of 76.

The girls' best medal and open champion was Mollie Lewis from the Vale Resort with a score of 67.

First prize went to Carolyn McKenzie of St Athan with 42 points, second prize to Karen James of the Vale Resort with 39 points and third prize Janet Beckerley of Bryn Meadows with 38 points.

Cottrell Park winner was Jen Thomas with 38 points.

Sam Edwards of Cottrell Park took the 0-25 category longest drive and 20 - 36 category

went to Carolyn McKenzie of St Athan. Dee Watkins of the Vale Resort got the nearest the pin.

The Men's open was held on Saturday, July 13 with 120 entrants on the Mackintosh course.

Again the halfway house provided refreshments and Cottrell Park Golf Resort certainly did well in the prizes!

First prize went to John Cooper from Cottrell Park with 42 points, second Adam

GO-S

Jon Owen of Keenor from Cottrell Pontypridd golf club achieved every golfer's dream of a hole in one on hole 12 of the Button Gwinnett course and was duly awarded with a most generous prize from Lexus Cardiff.

Fifth prize was Gareth Dummett from Cottrell Park with 40 points. The longest drive was won by Paul Wootton of Celtic Manor (30 yards from 18th green) and nearest the pin by David Thomas of St Andrews Major, 8 inches from the pin.

The Open week finale was complete with the Mixed Open on Sunday, July 14, with a field of just under 80 entrants playing on the Mackintosh course.

The winners were: first, Chris and Salah Skubala from Langland Bay with 43 points, second prize went to Jo Pateman and Bill Bryce of Cottrell Park with 42 points (decider on the last hole) and third prize went to Joan and Trevor Jenkinson of Weston Super Mare with 42 points.

The longest drive for the men was won by Bill Bryce of Cottrell Park and Louise Case for the ladies again of Cottrell Park. Nearest the pin was won by Terry O'Connell of St. Mellons and Chrissie Crump of Glamorganshire.

Where would we be without the generous support of our faithful fundraisers, who last

TY Hafan, the hospice at Sully recently received a cheque for £9,135 following fundraising by Southerndown golf club captain Byron Evans and lady captain Mandy Meier (pictured right) of Craig Penllyn, during their terms of office November 2011 to March 2013.

Both captains are very supportive of Ty Hafan and the impressive donation will boost the hospice, which needs to raise £3.3million each year to provide care and support for over 200 young people and their families from across Wales.

This is the second time Mandy has raised money to support Ty Hafan - in 1992 her

donation was gratefully received towards the initial building costs of over £3million.

This time, Byron Evans raised an amazing £7,060 through holding an open day at the club and various other events and Mandy was supported by the ladies' and veterans' section and the Glamorgan Farmers Golf Society, who all donated generously to the additional £2,075 she raised.

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Golf club's £9,135 boost for Ty Hafan



year raised £1.6million towards the Hospice running costs, which needs to support 207 young people and their families from across Wales.

A very sincere thank you to Byron and Mandy and their supporters.

Kay Davey (Ty Hafan Ambassador)

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Triples action sees Champions crowned

ON Sunday, July 21, the Monkstone Pétanque Club based at the Pen-y-Lan Bowls Club in Marlborough Road, Cardiff played host to the 2013 National Triples Championship.

The quarter-finals were hard fought games with the winners winning generally by just 1 to 4 points, but the semi-finals were a more one-sided

affair.

The final saw Robic, Smith and Tomczyk again playing a positive tactical game, allowed them to build up an early lead, which stopped their opponents from scoring until late in the game.

They took the title 13 - 2 in conditions normally reserved for competitions held in the south of France, the spiritual home of the sport.

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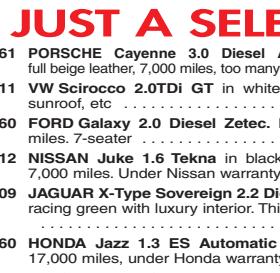
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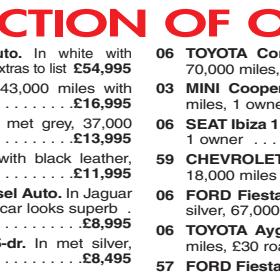
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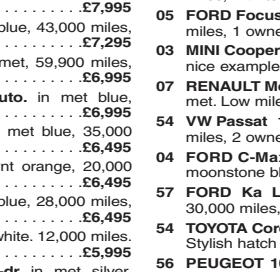
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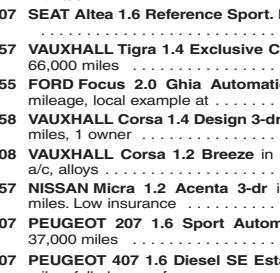
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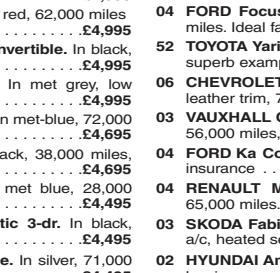
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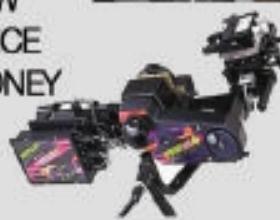
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GEM sport

Fast green means bowlers struggle

The Cadoxton players struggled on a very fast green, which they are not used to, at Windsor.

However a welcome success was the outcome of the rink skipped by Jim Sugden.

Lez Rogers Memorial Doubles 2013



Stephen and Steven Taylor

THE Lez Rogers Memorial Doubles Tenpin bowling tournament, now in its seventh year, this year took place in the Rhondda Bowl, Tonyrefail, on July 20 and 21.

Held to honour the memory of RAF sergeant Les 'Lez' Rogers, from Regent Street, Barry, who, while on international duty to represent Wales in the Commonwealth Championships in Melbourne, sadly collapsed and died on June 6, 2006, the event is a meeting up of old friends and the making of some new ones, while raising money for the British Heart Foundation.

This year saw 67 teams enter, bowling in very hot conditions aided only by the air conditioning unit and the doors wide open.

A cosy first squad of just seven teams saw the newest pairing of Amy Moore and Patrick Lee take a lead on 2699. The lead was short-lived when Driving Me Mad played in the luncheon squad; featuring Thomas John and Mark James, from Swansea, they shot a 2756.

The evening saw a short set performed upstairs by Kay and Les's daughter, Carrie Anne Rogers with her guitar. This event alone raised over £50 for the charity.

The Sunday saw three

Kelvin Chedgoy against the experienced Ken McLeod. The rink included two first year bowlers, Dennis Hammond and Jamie Ferguson, and was well supported by Jim Sugden.

An early 5-1 lead was followed by a 4' against and the advantage was overturned with two further losses to trail 5-10. After 12 ends they still were 9-15 behind, but five of the last six ends brought success to complete a last end win by one shot.

Graham Brown's rink were in trouble after six ends against Paul Gunter, with a deficit of 2-15, but recovered well and were just one shot down going into the final end. Unfortunately, the result of this went to the home side. The other two rinks never came to terms with the pace of the green and were well beaten.

G Powell, A Turner, G Davies, G Brown 17-14 B Curtis, B Knight, G Buckingham, G Trickett; J Ferguson, M Curtis, D Evans, H Craven 11-13 A Morgan, C Coomber, G Currie, P Oxenham; J Stacey, G Solomon, S Clarke, K Chedgoy 11-19 R Vodden, A Goddard, M Phillips, G Durham; S

Clements, D Fanning, I by two shots. Robertson, L Davies 5-29 D Burbridge, P Robbins, J Kirk, A Burdge; final score 44-75.

Cadoxton v Ynysyngarad - ML4

Cadoxton made the trip to Pontypridd to play this match in persistent rain throughout against Ynysyngarad. They returned pointless for the third consecutive time.

D Evans, L Cundliffe, G Davies, K Chedgoy 12-28; P Ellis, W Vaughan, L Davies, H Craven 14-23; H Hellyar, K Cowling, I Robertson, D Kuhnell 7-21; T Bishop, P Swannick, D Brook, G Brown 13-22; final score 46-94.

Cadoxton 'A' v Ynysyngarad 'A' - ML6

Cadoxton 'A' hosted Ynysyngarad 'A' and were narrowly beaten

Roy Harding's rink took complete control after they recovered from 2-5 down to reach 19-5. Two more shots were added on the final end after conceding 5 in four ends.

Alex Turner skipped another winning rink after recovering from 5-12 down to win by one shot. Steve Clarke seemed to be leading his rink to another success at 15-11, but lost the last five ends for a two shot defeat.

The other rink skipped by Alan Carpenter was level after seven ends, but four 3's during the remaining ends opened up a losing result.

S Clements, D Tuck, R Cole, R Harding 21-10; D Hammond, G Solomon, M Curtis, A Turner 18-17; J Crout, D Fanning, M Mathews, S Clarke 15-18; G Powell, L Adams, J Sugden, A Carpenter 15-26; final score 69-71. DK

Young gymnasts' success

WHILE most people were outdoors enjoying the hot weather, Barry YMCA gymnasts were battling against the heat when they competed at the VGA Novice Invitational event.

Despite the boiling conditions, the gymnasts had a great time competing against gymnasts from clubs across south and east Wales.

In the 12/13 years category the team of Catrin Long, Chloe Sullivan, Ellice Stockford and Seren Mirza Davies claimed first place.

Catrin climbed to the top of the podium again when she took the all around title and she also gained second place on vault and beam.

Her teammate Seren joined her in joint second place on beam; Seren also claimed a fourth place ribbon on vault and placed third overall. Chloe also visited the top of the podium on another occasion when she became the vault champion, while club mate Ellice placed third on vault.

Zoe Arnold also competed in the 12/13 years category and gained a well deserved second place on bars.

On the opposite end of the age spectrum, Barry YMCA had six gymnasts competing in the youngest age category - 8/9 years. Erin

Gamble mirrored Catrin's success in the all around event becoming the 8/9 years champion.

She also placed second on beam and claimed a fourth place ribbon on vault.

Teammate Bria Karim had double success, placing second on vault and bars, and placed fifth overall. Evin Wong gained third place ribbons on beam and floor and placed sixth overall. This trio, along with Celyn Powell, placed second in the team category.

This was the first full four piece competition for Sophia Foscolo and Layla-Jade Lang and they put in some great performances in this age group, completing a number of new skills.

In the 10/11 years age group Kelsey Cross climbed onto the podium, claiming second place on bars, third on vault and fourth on floor.

An unfortunate fall on beam kept her out of the all around medals.

There were some

PATRONS' DAY
BARRY Rugby Club patrons and friends day will be on Saturday, August 17.

Also, to mark the club's 125th anniversary year, an engraved brick wall has been produced to record the personal involvement of members' families during the club's history.

The first phase of the wall, consisting of 230 bricks, is now complete and the club will be open between 2pm and 5pm on Saturday, August 17, for viewing by contributors.

Contact 01446 411737 or

andyjam68@yahoo.co.uk. for more details.

PANTHERS ROAR AND WIN THE CUP!



'CHAMPIONS!'

PORTHKERRY PANTHERS under-9s were invited to play on Saturday at Leckwith Football Stadium for the Neighbourhood Watch cup.

They played incredibly well, winning all their matches with excellent attitude and great teamwork, as this was only part of a very strong squad.

Proud coach Adi Harding was overwhelmed when his team of Petros Grigoriou, Jakson Dobbs, Sam Douglas, Marshell Harding, Reuben Hopkins, Oliver Bradley and Kai Ludvigsen came back to Barry with the cup; well done boys, you did us all very proud!

AG

Beavers win out at Bedwas event

BARRY Beavers headed out in the sweltering heat on July 14 with 26 of their disabled swimmers to attend the Bedwas Penguins annual gala.

This is one of our most popular galas as the pool is shorter than all the other pools we compete in. Our team always look forward to getting together and competing with the other seven disabled swimming clubs from across Wales.

Pat Finch, the team coach, was extremely pleased with the effort that was put in by all the team members especially as we beat our main rivals The Polar Bears to clinch first

place overall.

The Beavers came away with 12 medals, they were: girls 20m gold for Abigail Finch, silver for Natasha Lynch and bronze for Ffion Jones; boys 20m bronze for Louis Davies.

Men's 20m silver for John Evans, girls 40m bronze for Courtney Rodgers, girls 80m

Talisha Rodgers won gold, while her sister Layla Rogers also managed to win silver at this distance.

Ladies 80m Heather Williams achieved silver, men 80m saw gold for Nicholas Cusheen, Barry Beavers also managed to win gold in the junior relay (Jesse Rodgers, Shannon, Courtney and Layla Rogers) and bronze in the senior relay (Philip Daly, John Evans, Nicholas Cusheen James Jones).

Barry Beavers are still desperately looking for volunteers to help at our swimming sessions on a Saturday afternoon

between 3.45pm and 4.45pm at Barry leisure centre.

If we cannot find people that are willing to come and help us we may have to turn disabled swimmers away, which would be a great shame as they benefit much from the water therapy they receive.

If you feel that you can help in any way or help us with fundraising to enable the club to keep up the wonderful work that they do please contact Pat Finch on 01446 747683.

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Brynhill results

BRYNHILL golfers competed in the Caledonian Cup on July 21.

There were 53 competitors, but the winners were Michael Moore & Nathan Clissold with 48 points. Runners-up were Chris Phillips & Mike Knight with 46 points.

On July 28, in the Don 'The Fox' Cup, Christian Bruce with 67 was the winner; Alan Sweeny was runner up with 68 and the best gross went to Matt Mullooly with 73 - 96 competitors took part.

CS

Millwood bowls round-up
MILLWOOD faced Murch in the Munro Cup on July 24, and lost 70-50.